

Sound rage
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News

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Unite launches 'red wall' push for more radical Labour policies

Heather Stewart
Special correspondent

Labour's biggest union backer, Unite, is launching grassroots campaigns in industrial constituencies across the UK demanding more radical policies on energy, steel and green jobs.

Unite's leader, Sharon Graham, who has been publicly critical of Keir Starmer, said funding earmarked for Labour would instead be funnelled into stoking public pressure for the party to shift its position on key issues including nationalisation of energy companies.

"What we are doing is we are diverting some of the money that we would probably have given to Labour, to have three major campaigns that we are starting, in the 'red wall' seats where these are the issues for those constituents," she told the Guardian.

"There will be billboards, there's wraparounds, there will be one-to-one conversations," said Graham. "So when they come into those towns, people will be saying that's what's important to them - and if Labour don't pick the baton up, I think that will be difficult for them."

Unite pays significant affiliation fees to Labour - amounting to almost £1.1m in 2023 so far - but Graham said additional resources from the union's political fund would now go into campaigning on specific policies.

She cited energy nationalisation; oil and gas, where Unite wants Labour to reverse its decision not to grant new North Sea licences; and government support for steelmaking.

"In Wales, in Scunthorpe … there's 16 steel towns where we are taking our policies to the people of those towns and saying: 'Whoever comes in here needs to give this commitment to steel,'" she said.

Unite is calling for Labour to allocate some of its £28bn a year of green investment funds to greening the steel industry and to promise to use British steel in all public infrastructure schemes.

Similarly, the union will target Scottish constituencies where there are oil and gas workers, calling for energy nationalisation, and a continuation of North Sea extraction until workers can move into new green jobs through a "just transition".

"I don't think there's a family in Scotland that's not connected to the oil and gas industry," the Unite leader said, claiming that many were "absolutely furious" about Labour's policy on energy.

"I'm not saying vote Labour, vote Tory, vote this or vote that - I'm saying this is a core issue," she said.

"Somebody asked me the other day: 'How will you move Keir Starmer on these issues?' For me, it's the electorate: they're 2

TV chiefs investigate Brand allegations

Emily Dugan

Broadcasters have launched urgent investigations into the past conduct of Russell Brand while the Metropolitan police appealed for any potential victims to come forward after the comedian was accused of rape, sexual assault and emotional abuse.

The BBC said it is "urgently looking into the issues raised" by the allegations that Brand harmed four women, including claims that he raped a woman in Los Angeles and sexually assaulted a 16-year-old British schoolgirl. Channel 4 has also pulled all of Brand's content from its streaming service while it investigates.

The claims were published in the Sunday Times after a years-long investigation, alongside Channel 4's Dispatches. They relate to the years 2006-13 when the self-confessed sex addict was at the height of his fame, working for BBC Radio 2 and Channel 4 and starring in Hollywood films.

Brand denied the claims in a video posted online 6



▲ *Russell Brand leaves a London theatre after performing a comedy set on Saturday in the wake of claims about his sexual conduct* PHOTOGRAPH: JAMES MANNING/PA

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News



The RSPB, headed by Beccy Speight, apologised after an outcry over a tweet that said ministers were liars
PHOTOGRAPH: BEN ANDREW/RWQ

Charities told they can run 'politically divisive' campaigns

Patrick Butler
Social policy editor

Charities should not hold back from engaging in political activity and on emotive issues on social media such as race or immigration, even where they risk triggering controversy, the voluntary sector watchdog has said.

Guidance to be issued by the Charity Commission this week makes it clear charities are entitled to campaign robustly online in support of their mission and beneficiaries. To do so they must have the backing of their trustee boards, keep within the law and act with "respect and tolerance".

The guidance, which emerges just weeks after a political and media row over a tweet sent by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) that accused ministers of being liars, is intended to help charities navigate what is expected to be an increasingly charged and polarised political atmosphere in the run-up to the next general election.

In an interview with the Guardian, the Charity Commission chair, Orlando Fraser, called it "supportive guidance" that clarified the law in an often politically fraught area.

He added: "I will robustly defend charities' right to campaign lawfully, even where such campaigning covers sensitive or politically divisive ground."

The RSPB post, for which the charity apologised after an outcry, led to calls from a Conservative MP for the Charity Commission to strip it of its charitable status amid claims from some quarters that the post showed the RSPB had strayed from its supposedly core mission of "nesting boxes and bird feeders" into politics.

However, the guidance is clear that the law allows charities to campaign and undertake political activity in pursuit of their charitable aims - though they are not allowed to support or oppose a particular political party, and a charity's trustees must ensure that its activities broadly align with the delivery of their charitable mission.

> *'I will robustly defend charities' right to campaign lawfully'*
>
> **Orlando Fraser**
> *Charity Commission*

The clarification is likely to be welcomed in the voluntary sector, which hopes the guidance will help charities defend themselves against a wave of aggressive criticism from right-wing politicians and media seen as an attempt to undermine charities' legal rights and restrict their legitimate role in public debate.

The sector is increasingly concerned that hostile "culture war" attacks on charities by politicians and media over issues such as race, immigration and the climate crisis have had a "chilling" effect and left some charities wary of campaigning or unsure whether they can speak out.

Last month, the home secretary, Suella Braverman, called refugee charities "politically motivated activists masquerading as humanitarians" and claimed they had "no regard for the will of the British people".

The Tory party deputy chair, Lee Anderson, called Calais refugee charities "just as bad as people smugglers" in February.

The National Trust, Barnardo's, Runnymede Trust and Care4Calais have all been the subject of regulatory complaints in recent years accusing them of breaching charity law by, for example, focusing on issues thought to be outside their charitable mission, such as racial equality, or by challenging government policy in the courts. In each case they were exonerated by the Charity Commission.

Fraser said he would not "give a running commentary on what politicians say about the voluntary sector". But he added: "I would discourage people outside the sector from attacking charities for being too 'woke' because it has no meaning for us in regulatory terms and I don't think it is helpful."

The RSPB incident was an example of what the commission would like charities to guard against when using social media, he said.

But he praised the charity for acting swiftly when it realised what had happened, saying it should be "given credit for recognising it [the tweet] was a mistake, and for apologising".

Unite pushes Labour to shift on energy, steel and green jobs

Continued *from page 1*

the decision makers. That is the reality. And so if the electorate moves, he moves - it's as simple as that."

In her speech to union delegates at the TUC conference in Liverpool last Monday, Graham conceded that renationalising energy - including the National Grid - would cost £90bn, but insisted a future Labour government could afford it.

Some of Labour's green policies, spearheaded by the shadow energy secretary, Ed Miliband, have proved controversial with trade unions representing oil and gas workers.

Some fear their members could face the same fate as coalminers in the 1980s unless the shift away from fossil fuels is carefully managed.

GMB shares Unite's scepticism about halting new North Sea licences - but its general secretary, Gary Smith, said he would continue to make that case directly to Starmer.

"Labour are just wrong on this: they're wrong on oil and gas, and we will continue to argue and debate on it," he said.

But Smith, whose union has many members in the energy sector, rejected the idea of nationalisation. "There is an argument for public ownership of some parts of strategic infrastructure, but the idea we were ever going to nationalise retail energy is nonsense: there's not a lot of money in it," he said, pointing to the fact that some energy providers have recently had to be bailed out.

Unite irked some delegates at the TUC's annual gathering by publicly attacking certain of Labour's policies, when most unions affiliated to the party have been publicly supportive - in particular of a series of workers' rights measures reaffirmed by the deputy leader, Angela Rayner.

Graham has accused Labour of watering down some aspects of the package - including unions' access to workplaces - blaming corporate lobbying. "Most of these policies cost no money, it's not financial," she said. "So it was done for a different reason and I assume it was done for business.

"We have put a lot of money into Labour through the bad times - they weren't in government, so we've got nothing for it. And then of course the business lobby show up late for the party, and of course it's: 'We've got to be careful.'"

Graham also urged Starmer's party to take a more radical approach on issues including tax and spending policy - a view shared by some other trade unions.

"If they're too cautious, I think that will be a problem, because I think people are crying out for something," the Unite leader said.

Graham's predecessor as general secretary, Len McCluskey, was closely involved in Labour politics during Jeremy Corbyn's leadership, and she has deliberately taken a more arm's length approach.

> **£3.5m**
> *Sum Unite gave Labour before the 2019 election, making it by far the biggest campaign contributor*

Unite gave Labour £3.5m in the run-up to the 2019 general election, making it by far the biggest contributor to the party's campaign. Graham did not rule out providing more financial support to Labour before next year's general election.

"I'm sure we'll have discussions - why would we give them any money if we didn't want them to win? Of course we want them to win - but we can't just put a blank cheque into central Labour and say: 'Do with it as you will,' when the very issues we're trying to get them to agree to, they're not agreeing to," she said.

Labour has been recruiting new donors among business leaders and philanthropists in recent months as it seeks alternative sources of funding.

A Labour party spokesperson said: "A Labour government will change the lives of working people for the better, and everything we do is focused on that.

"A core part of our plans is our new deal for working people which will strengthen workers' rights and tackle insecure work. That is good for workers and good for employers."

When it comes to the crunch

Behind the phenomenon that makes some noises unbearable

Nicola Davis
Science correspondent

For some it is the sound of a bouncing basketball. For others the clearing of a throat. For Dr Jane Gregory the list includes pigeons, ticking clocks and the sound of popcorn being eaten.

"I cried on the plane the other day because I couldn't figure out the volume on my new headphones and so I couldn't block out the sound of a guy sniffing," she says.

Gregory is among those who experience misophonia, a phenomenon in which particular sounds can prove unbearable, triggering emotions from anxiety and panic to shame and anger. Now in her book, Sounds Like Misophonia, the academic is on a mission to explore what's behind it, and to help those affected cope.

Gregory, a clinical psychologist at the University of Oxford, suggests misophonia is far from being a simple sensitivity to sound. It can be fed by a complex interplay of factors, including a lower ability to filter out certain noises, the association of negative meanings with particular sounds, and the burden of feelings associated with an emotional response to them.

The book offers exercises based on cognitive behavioural therapy to help readers understand the origins of their misophonia, reframe the meanings they attach to sounds and develop coping strategies. "My goal is for people to actually have some change as a result of the book," says Gregory.

Misophonia is thought to affect about one in five people in the UK. But it is debated whether severe cases should be considered a clinical disorder and, if so, classed under a different name.

While Gregory's misophonia is manageable, for some it can cause significant problems. "There are some people who do experience it to that extreme where it affects them on a day-to-day basis," she says. "They're quitting their jobs, they're struggling in relationships. Or they [are] suffering through it and therefore are just distressed a lot of the time or really anxious about sounds."

Yet, as Gregory notes, the phenomenon was largely unknown until the 2010s.

In one study, researchers asked people with high and low traits of misophonia to listen out for a "trigger" sound in the presence of a masking sound. Both groups detected the trigger just as easily. "The person with misophonia had a more intense reaction, but only after they identified what the sound was," adds Gregory.

Those results, she says, suggest that people with misophonia are not inherently better at detecting particular sounds, such as a sniff or a rustle – rather they might be listening out for them more, or not be as good as others at tuning them out. This is a trait, Gregory speculates, that might have offered our ancestors an evolutionary advantage, such as helping them to detect stealthy predators.



Sounds of eating popcorn can trigger a reaction



Another implication of the research, Gregory says, is that it is not just the auditory features of the sounds that cause negative reactions but the meaning attached to them. An example would be a reaction to the jingling of a dog's collar after being frightened by an aggressive dog.

Not all trigger sounds have a simple origin: Gregory is affected by the sound of pigeons for no discernible reason. In some cases, she adds, a response to a sound can reflect difficult memories.

"It's certainly not about trying to blame parents, but we do know that the way that other people respond, and the way that we interpret an event in childhood, can shape the way we respond later in life," she says. For example, if someone is ridiculed for complaining about a sound as a child, this may fuel intense reactions as an adult.

Gregory suggests misophonia might be contagious, revealing her husband has started to feel angry when he hears sounds that he knows might trigger her.

Gregory hopes her book will support those too often told to ignore sounds. She says: "The emotional reaction is much more complex than just being annoyed … They feel trapped and helpless when they encounter these sounds. If you think it's nothing, then you're not experiencing what this person is experiencing."



'It's more complex than being annoyed. People feel trapped and helpless hearing these sounds'

Dr Jane Gregory
Clinical psychologist

◀ *Dr Jane Gregory finds that pigeons' repetitive cooing sets off her misophonia for no discernible reason*
PHOTOGRAPH: SAM FROST/THE GUARDIAN

Solar farms in space will soon be financially viable, says Peake

Sophie Zeldin-O'Neill

Maj Tim Peake has backed the idea of solar farms in space, saying the concept is "becoming absolutely viable".

Peake said the falling cost of launching heavy cargoes into orbit meant that such complex structures could soon be sent to space, with the potential to provide significant power. Peake – the first British European Space Agency (ESA) astronaut to visit the International Space Station – said: "It boils down to hard numbers at the end of the day. Launching thousands of tonnes of hardware into low Earth orbit is becoming absolutely viable."

The ESA has been exploring the idea of space-based solar power plants, and commissioned two "concept studies" earlier this year. It is hoping to present a business case to the EU by 2025. Peake said the agency calculated that solar farms in space would be financially viable when cargoes could be launched at a cost of $1,000 (£807) per kg or less.

He told an energy tech summit last week: "So far, the actual costs have been about $2,700 per kilo. Launches using the Falcon Heavy can reduce that to about $1,500 and the so-called Starship brings that down by an order of magnitude to about $300 per kilo."

The Falcon Heavy and Starship are rockets designed by Elon Musk's SpaceX aerospace company.

The Falcon Heavy is already transporting cargo such as satellites into space, while the Starship is in development. An unmanned test flight in April exploded minutes after liftoff. Unlike previous launchers, they are reusable and designed to return to Earth intact. This means there is no need to construct a new rocket for each launch, bringing costs down.

The ESA's Solaris project aims to launch solar panels into space, programmed to robotically link up with other panels to build a solar farm.



▲ *Tim Peake says energy could be beamed to Earth by microwaves*

While Earth-based solar farms are unable to generate electricity in the dark, space-based panels can harvest the sun's energy continuously.

Peake said: "If you can build solar farms in space, then you can beam that energy down to ground stations via microwaves. It means clean, limitless energy from space becomes an absolute possibility."

The government said this year that UK universities and tech firms would get £4.3m of funding to develop space-based solar power. A 2020 report said the farms could provide up to 25% of the country's electricity.

Commissioners to run Birmingham city council and sell off its assets

Kiran Stacey
Political correspondent

Michael Gove will this week announce the appointment of commissioners to take over the day-to-day running of Birmingham city council after the local authority in effect declared itself bankrupt.

The housing secretary could make the announcement as soon as tomorrow, with the commissioners set to oversee financial decisions and management appointments.

The commissioners, whose appointment was revealed by the Sunday Times, will preside over what is likely to be a fire sale of assets, which could include the Central Library and Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery.

In 2015 the council sold assets, including the National Exhibition Centre for £307m, but that was not enough to prevent it having to issue a formal announcement earlier this month that it did not have enough resources to balance its budget.

A spokesperson for the communities department said: "We continue to engage regularly with Birmingham city council, as we have done in recent months, over the pressures it faces including around its equal pay liability and have expressed serious concern over its governance.



▶ *Birmingham city council, the largest local authority in England, is in effect bankrupt*
PHOTOGRAPH: CHRISTOPHER THOMOND/THE GUARDIAN

£87.4m
Budget shortfall forecast for Birmingham city council for 2023-24, rising to £164.8m in 2024-25

£2bn
Funding gap for local authorities in England and Wales, according to the Local Government Association

"We have requested written assurances from the leader of the council that any decision regarding the council's issues over equal pay represents the best value for taxpayers' money."

Birmingham, the largest local authority in the country, issued a section 114 notice on 5 September, warning that it did not have enough money to cover its liabilities. Officials said they faced a shortfall of £87.4m for 2023-24, which was forecast to rise to £164.8m in 2024-25.

The council recently paid out more than £1bn as a result of an equal pay ruling that female employees missed out on bonuses paid to men, and is facing a further £650m-£750m in claims. John Cotton, the council leader, also said earlier this year that problems with a new IT system would cost as much as £100m to fix.

Council leaders will meet on 25 September, before which they will present a financial recovery plan laying out in detail what they will sell to cover what they owe.

The Sunday Times said buildings in the crosshairs included Aston Hall and Sarehole Mill, an 18th-century mill that is said to have been the inspiration for a mill at Hobbiton in JRR Tolkien's The Lord of the Rings. The Central Library building could also be sold, even though it was built only 10 years ago. The section 114 notice, which has previously been issued by six other councils since 2020, including Croydon and Thurrock, means the council is only allowed to spend money to protect vulnerable people and maintain statutory services.

Woking also issued a Section 114 notice in June after what it said was "an extremely serious financial shortfall".

The Local Government Association has said it expects the total funding gap for local authorities in England and Wales as a whole to grow to £2bn or more this financial year.

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Lady Hale among 11 peers who have not sworn oath to King Charles

Henry Dyer

Lady Hale, the former president of the supreme court, is among 11 peers who appear to have neglected their duties in the House of Lords after failing to take an oath to King Charles – a requirement for them to perform any part of their constitutional role.

Among the other peers is Harry Carter (Lord Carter of Haslemere), a top lawyer working in Downing Street who was appointed by Theresa May nearly four years ago but has never taken part in the House of Lords.

All peers must swear or affirm the oath of allegiance to the new monarch after the death of Queen Elizabeth II. Peers who have not taken the oath cannot sit or vote in the House of Lords, and attendance records show none of the 11 has taken part in parliamentary proceedings in the past year. Other absentee peers include a former chief of staff to Gordon Brown, the house's oldest member, and a lord suspended over expenses claims.

The failure of some peers to carry out the basic requirement of their House of Lords duties risks the perception that a peerage is seen as an honour instead of an important role of legislative scrutiny, although some have yet to take the oath due to their poor health or that of close family.

The custom of swearing an oath to a new monarch is centuries old and blocks anyone who does not take it from fulfilling their role in the second chamber. Some peers went out of their way to meet the requirement. The terminally ill peer Frank Field made his first appearance in the Lords in almost two years to swear the oath.

Peers who have not taken the oath are free to use Westminster's facilities, hold meetings in parliament's rooms and take visitors to its bars and restaurants, but they cannot claim the £342 daily attendance allowance.



▲ *Lady Brenda Hale said her Lords induction would start this month*

Brenda Hale retired as the president of the supreme court in January 2020, allowing her to take her seat in the House of Lords. A life peer since 2004, when she was made a law lord and so was not allowed to sit in the Lords, Hale has yet to take part since her retirement almost four years ago.

She told the Guardian: "Now that I have retired, I plan to play a modest part, and some weeks ago I arranged induction sessions which will take place later this month.

"I do not accept that I have neglected any 'duties' because I was not appointed as a parliamentarian. My participation was impeded by a combination of the Covid restrictions and contractual commitments."

Lord Carter, who has been a government lawyer for more than three decades, was given a peerage in May's resignation honours in 2019. But he has never taken the oath and has not participated in the Lords. A source close to Carter said he would be formally introduced in December after his retirement. They said he had "conscientiously sought to avoid any conflict of interest while working as a crown servant".

Other peers working in the civil service have taken their seats and then taken a leave of absence.

A different Lord Carter is also yet to take the oath. Lord Stephen Carter was made a peer in October 2008 after serving as Gordon Brown's chief of staff when he was appointed a telecoms minister. He has not spoken or voted in the house since December 2009.

Lord Bhatia, appointed in 2001, has yet to take the oath to Charles. In October 2010, Bhatia was suspended for eight months from the Lords after being found to have broken expenses rules. He was ordered to pay back £27,000. He was suspended for a further eight months in April 2016 after he was found to have claimed for the same mileage expenses from the Lords and a charity.

The house's oldest member, Lord Tony Christopher, 98, is another peer who has not taken the oath. He took a leave of absence in June 2021 until the end of the parliamentary session in April 2022. Christopher does not appear to have taken another leave of absence since then.

A House of Lords spokesperson said: "The House of Lords is a busy and active revising chamber … Members are not full-time politicians."



PHOTOGRAPH: JOHN PHILLIPS/BFC/GETTY

Brollies make a comeback A model poses for a photocall yesterday at the Camley Street natural park near King's Cross while waiting for the opening of the catwalk show for the Norwegian brand Holzweiler as part of London fashion week, which opened on Friday and finishes tomorrow.

House sellers cut prices at fastest rate in a decade

Graeme Wearden

Homeowners are dropping asking prices at the fastest rate in more than a decade, after stubbornly high interest rates dampened the demand for property over the summer.

The proportion of homes on the market that have had at least one price reduction is at its highest level since January 2011, the property website Rightmove has reported.

More than 36% of properties have had their asking price reduced at least once, compared with the pre-pandemic average of 31.2%. The number of properties going up for sale in August was 6% lower than the 10-year average. This led to average price drops of 6.2%, the highest since January 2011, knocking more than £22,000 off average asking prices. Rightmove said average asking prices were 0.4% lower than a year ago, at £366,281.

The property agent Emma Fildes, the founder of Brick Weaver, said: "Many a buyer and seller took a break over the summer to get some perspective on the market. For those sellers who've weathered the summer market with no firm offers they are proactively reducing their prices to enable a move."

Surveyors blame high mortgage costs and economic uncertainty for the slowdown in the market. Borrowers could face further pressure if the Bank of England raises interest rates for the 15th time in a row on Thursday.

Tom Bill, the head of UK residential research at the Knight Frank estate agents, said buyer confidence had been damaged by the volatility over the last 12 months. He added: "Stability is needed to improve sentiment."

Rightmove said there were signs activity was starting to pick up after a subdued August, with the number of properties coming to market up by 12% in the first week of September.

Broadcasters hold urgent inquiries into Brand sexual abuse allegations

Continued *from page 1*

before they were published, saying he was facing a "litany of extremely egregious and aggressive attacks".

The foreign secretary, James Cleverly, said yesterday that the investigation prompted wider questions for the entertainment industry.

While he did not comment specifically on Brand, he told the BBC: "I think there are some real challenges where you have these very, very acute differentials in power, whether that be in the entertainment industry, whether that be in politics and we see this in the commercial world as well. I think we have to be particularly careful when we listen to the voices of the people who are relatively powerless because we, I think, collectively have missed opportunities to do the right thing and intervene much, much earlier, and we've got to be better at this."

The comedian Katherine Ryan has previously spoken on an episode of Louis Theroux's BBC Interviews series about a comedian whose "predatory behaviour" was an open secret within the industry. She did not identify the comedian in question.

The Metropolitan police said it had "not received any reports" in relation to a series of allegations of sexual assault by Brand but had spoken to the Sunday Times and would be making further approaches to "ensure that any victims of crime who they have spoken with are aware of how they may report any criminal allegations to police". The force added: "If anyone believes they have been the victim of a sexual assault, no matter how long ago it happened, we would encourage them to contact police."

Brand, 48, is on a national standup comedy tour. There have been calls online for venues to cancel his upcoming shows in Windsor, Wolverhampton and Plymouth.

Channel 4 and the BBC are both conducting internal investigations.

A BBC spokesperson said that the reports "contained serious allegations, spanning a number of years … Russell Brand worked on BBC radio programmes between 2006 and 2008 and we are urgently looking into the issues raised."



▲ *James Cleverly said allegations should lead to an early intervention*

Brand was also accused of pursuing audience members for sex while presenting Big Brother spin-off shows EFourum and Big Brother's Big Mouth on Channel 4. A researcher claimed concerns were reported to production managers at Endemol, the producer. Channel 4 said it was "appalled" and was conducting its own internal investigations.

Banijay UK, which bought Endemol in 2020, said it had "launched an urgent internal investigation and will cooperate with any requests for information from broadcast partners and external agencies … We also encourage anybody who feels that they were affected by Brand's behaviour while working on these productions to contact us in confidence."

The comedian London Hughes claimed "there's not a single comedian in the UK" who wasn't aware of Brand's behaviour. Hughes said she had not been aware the allegations included rape but that: "I always had the understanding that he was, for lack of a better word, 'dodgy' and I should avoid him."

Appearing on the Channel 4 Dispatches programme which revealed the allegations, comedian Daniel Sloss said: "I know for many, many years women have been warning each other about Russell."

Labour MP Jess Phillips told Channel 4 News she found watching the programme "harrowing" and hit out at those on social media who were questioning the accounts of women who made accusations against Brand.

She also said she was unsurprised by the fact that people turned up to see Brand perform on Saturday night. "It doesn't surprise me that men fail up, specifically in that industry. It just makes it look like society accepts that women have to tolerate a certain amount of abuse."

Amnesty International has urged women to come forward if they have any concerns about the behaviour of Brand during his participation in two of the charity's standup comedy Secret Policeman's Ball events in 2006 and 2012, though it said "no complaints or concerns" were raised at the time of the events.

It followed the announcement by Trevi women and children's charity, which supports vulnerable women recovering from addiction, that it was "deeply saddened and upset" by the news and had ended its association with Brand and his charitable fund, the Stay Free Foundation.

Brand has received words of support from Elon Musk, as well as Andrew Tate, who is awaiting a trial for rape and human trafficking.

Brand has been contacted for comment.



Timeline Allegations of sexual and emotional abuse dating back to 2006

Jessica Murray

Russell Brand has been accused of rape, sexual assault and emotional abuse over a seven-year period while he was at the height of his fame. He strongly denies the allegations, which were reported by the Sunday Times after an investigation. In a video posted online on Friday, he said he had been "very, very promiscuous" but all of his relationships had been "absolutely, always consensual". These are the allegations made against him.

2006

A woman claims Brand sexually assaulted her during a three-month relationship when she was 16 and still at school, and Brand, then 30, was a BBC radio presenter and host of Big Brother's Big Mouth.

She told the Sunday Times they had met when Brand approached her in London after she had been shopping, and proceeded to go through her bags and critique her purchases. She said he took out a dress and said: "You're going to wear this on our date this week."

She claims she told her mother, who advised her to text Brand and tell him her age, but that he was undeterred, and on the date asked her to confirm she was 16.

The woman said that over the following weeks, Brand referred to her as "the child" and she alleged that he was controlling, and sexually and emotionally abusive. She said he sent a car to her school to take her out of lessons and asked her to save his name as "Carly" in her phone to deceive her parents. He also allegedly gave her "scripts" on how to lie to her parents, and advised her to hide the relationship from her friends. The woman and a family member described Brand's behaviour to the Sunday Times as grooming.

2007

Jordan Martin alleges Brand sexually assaulted her and was physically and emotionally abusive towards her during a six-month relationship from February 2007.

She claims he assaulted her at the Lowry hotel in Manchester when he became angry after finding out she had spoken to an ex-boyfriend, and ripped her phone case apart to pull out the battery, before touching her sexually. She said she was "not ready for this intrusion" and did not find it pleasant.

Martin made the allegations in a book published in 2014. She declined to be interviewed by the investigative reporters, but she told the Sunday Times she stood by her account. Brand denies all of the allegations made by the Sunday Times, but he has never challenged the content of the book.

2012

A woman alleges that Brand raped her against a wall at his Los Angeles home in July 2012 after she refused to join him in sexual activity with "a friend" of Brand. She alleges she told Brand to get off her and that she wanted to leave, but he carried on and briefly blocked the door to prevent her from leaving.

She told the Sunday Times she was treated at a Rape Treatment Centre that same day, and had therapy treatment there for five months. Records seen by the Sunday Times show she contemplated criminal proceedings but ultimately decided against it.

After the incident, Brand sent her text messages apologising for

▼ *Russell Brand is alleged to have harmed four women, including a British schoolgirl who was aged 16*
PHOTOGRAPH: LESTER COHEN/WIREDIMAGE



what happened and describing his behaviour as "crazy and selfish". It happened the same month that Brand's divorce from the singer Katy Perry was finalised.

2013
A woman who told the Sunday Times she had met Brand at an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting before they started working together claims he sexually assaulted her at his home in Los Angeles. She alleges he tried to kiss her and remove her clothes as he pinned her down, and she shouted at him to stop. "I was screaming: 'What are you doing, stop, please, you're my friend'," she said.

She claims he eventually relented but he "flipped" and shouted at her, saying she was fired. She claims that years later she spoke to someone who had been working on a project with Brand and was outside the house at the time of the incident. He allegedly apologised for not helping her, and said: "I heard you screaming" and, "We were all so scared of him".

> ***One woman said she never reported him as she feared it would affect her career***



▲ *The comedian and television presenter London Hughes says she always understood that Brand was someone to be avoided*



▲ *Daniel Sloss said women had been warning each other about Brand 'for many, many years'*

▼ *Katherine Ryan previously spoke out about the 'predatory behaviour' of an unnamed comedian*



Brand allegedly threatened the woman later with legal action if she told anyone about her allegation, and she said she never formally reported him because she feared it would affect her career.

2020
The woman who claims she was sexually assaulted by Brand during a three-month relationship when she was 16 contacted his literary agent at the time, who was also the co-founder of the talent agency Tavistock Wood. She said a lawyer representing Brand contacted her denying the allegations and claiming she was looking for money. A statement given to the PA news agency by Tavistock Wood said: "Russell Brand categorically and vehemently denied the allegation made in 2020, but we now believe we were horribly misled by him. TW has terminated all professional ties to Brand."

2023
On 16 September, a joint investigation by the Times, Sunday Times and Channel 4 Dispatches details allegations against Brand.

The night before publication, Brand denied the claims in a video posted online, stating that all of his relationships had been consensual, before accusing the media of a "coordinated attack".

He said: "Amidst this litany of astonishing, rather baroque attacks are some very serious allegations that I absolutely refute."

Analysis

Move from mainstream media may limit backlash

Jim Waterson
Media editor

Russell Brand has spent the last decade telling the world not to trust mainstream media. Now the comedian will find out whether the public has bought into this narrative - or if they believe the claims of rape and sexual assault reported in the Sunday Times and on Channel 4 over the weekend.

The allegations against Brand - which he denies - once again leave the British media industry reeling from claims that a prominent man was able to misuse his position for sexual pleasure. What's different to previous cases is that the prominent man has already largely stopped working with the major media institutions. Instead, Brand exists in a parallel world where his income comes from podcasting, YouTube advertising revenue and selling membership of his online community to become one of his "awakened wonders" - with fans gaining access to interviews with the likes of the former Fox News host Tucker Carlson and the anti-vaccine US Democratic presidential nomination candidate Robert F Kennedy.



▲ *Russell Brand in a video posted online on Friday, defending himself before the allegations were public*

As a result, the damage to Brand's current career may be limited by his decision to spend recent years building a fanbase around rightwing talking points. Brand's own denial suggested "there's a serious and concerted agenda to control these kind of spaces and these kind of voices" - implying he is being targeted for getting close to the truth.

Yet there are still questions for mainstream British broadcasters to answer, even if Brand has not appeared on their programmes in recent years. The BBC and Channel 4, who employed Brand during the peak of his fame in the 2000s, have said they do not have records of complaints against Brand during that era, or have failed to answer questions, citing privacy concerns. They also insist they now have improved processes for reporting sexual harassment.

At the same time, the Sunday Times reports that staff who worked with Brand on those shows claimed that his sexual behaviour was well known. Hypersexualisation and graphic descriptions of sexual desire were part of his public persona - which is not illegal but may have been considered as red flags by those hiring him to present shows.

Multiple newspapers and broadcasters had looked into allegations against Brand in recent years, but failed to get their stories to a position where they could be published. In the end it took teams of journalists working for three separate outlets - the Sunday Times, the Times and Channel 4's Dispatches - to combine their reporting in order to get the story out to the public.

The appetite for the reporting is there: the Dispatches documentary was watched live by 1.8m people on Saturday night, a large audience for Channel 4 in this era.

After the #MeToo movement came to global prominence, many high-profile men lost their careers over allegations of sexual impropriety. Back in 2019 one comedian declared themselves on board with this reckoning, calling #MeToo "a really positive change" and "a sign of real awakening". That person was Russell Brand.

'Concerted agenda' Defenders take up conspiracy theories

Jessica Murray

After allegations of sexual assault and rape emerged against the comedian Russell Brand, some were quick to take up conspiracy theories about why they had been published.

Brand set the wheels in motion when he released a video in which he rebutted the allegations the night before they were aired.

He said he was the victim of a "coordinated attack" from the mainstream media outlets which published the allegations - the Times, the Sunday Times and Channel 4's Dispatches - and that there was a "serious and concerted agenda" to control his voice.

He compared his experience to the media's criticism of Joe Rogan, the US podcaster who has been accused of promoting misinformation about Covid vaccines.

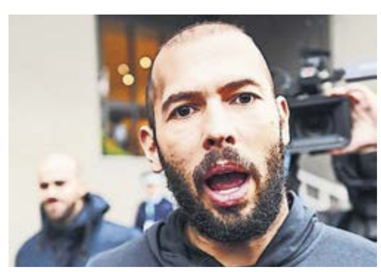
"It's been clear to me, or at least it feels to me, like there's a serious and concerted agenda to control these kind of spaces, and these kind of voices, and I mean my voice along with your voice," Brand said, signing off by telling viewers to "stay free".

An investigation spanning a number of years, published on Saturday by the Sunday Times, revealed that Brand had been accused of sexual assault, rape and predatory behaviour between 2006 and 2013 by four women. Brand denies all the allegations.

Hours after the allegations emerged, Brand performed at a sold-out gig at the 2,000-capacity Troubadour Wembley Park theatre in London where he received a standing ovation. He apparently told the crowd there were certain things he could not talk about during the show.



▲ *Elon Musk, the owner of X, and the influencer Andrew Tate, below, spoke out online in support of Brand*



Those who have voiced their support for Brand included Elon Musk, the billionaire entrepreneur and owner of X (formerly Twitter), who responded to Brand's video statement: "Of course. They don't like competition." He also replied to a tweet defending Brand, saying: "No more canceling. Enough is enough."

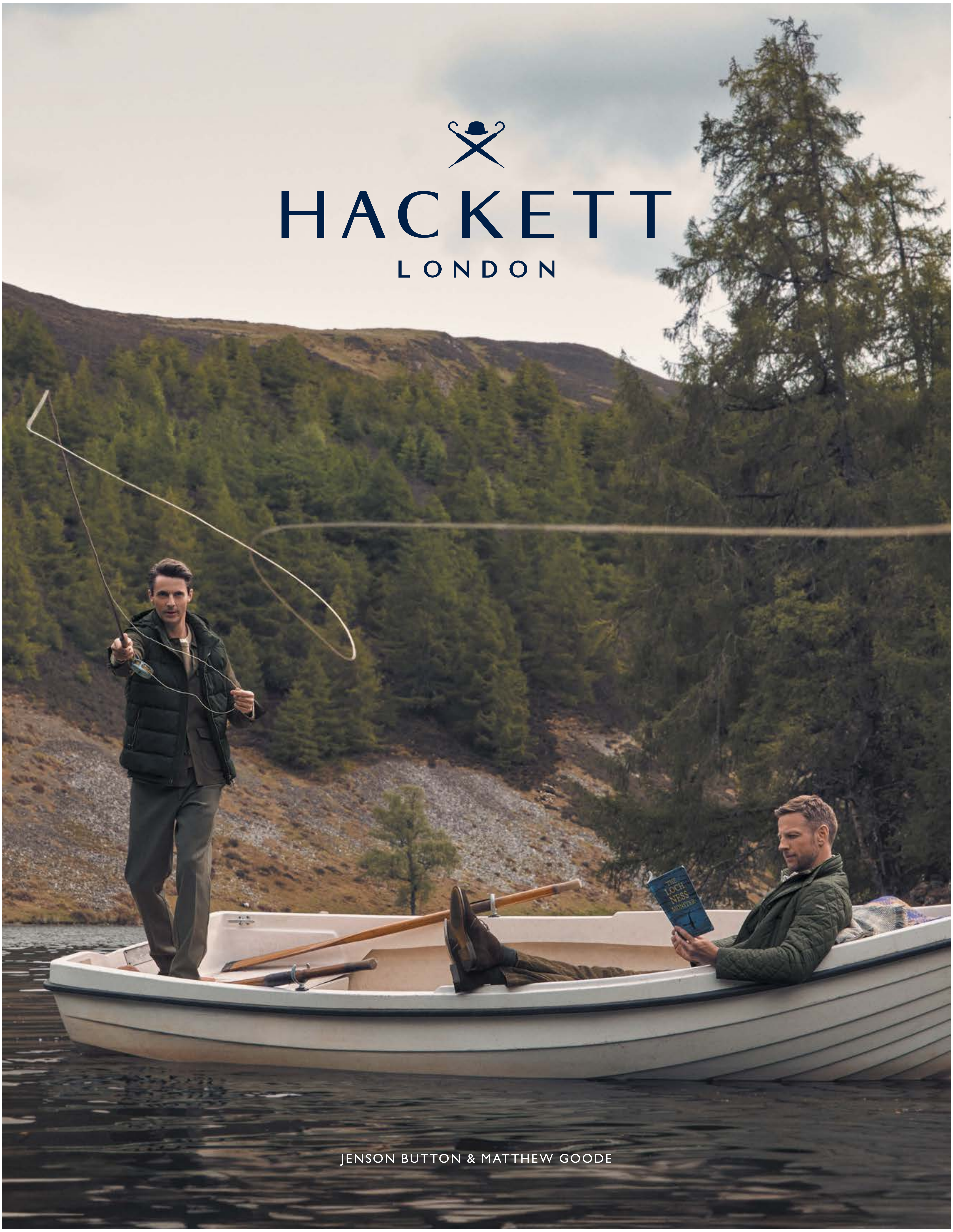
The self-proclaimed misogynist influencer Andrew Tate, who is awaiting trial in Romania on charges of rape and human trafficking, announced to his followers that he would "tell everybody the truth about what's happening to Russell Brand". "I know things I shouldn't know," he said.

Tate had already tweeted to Brand saying: "Welcome to the club" and shared a post saying that Brand was getting the "Andrew Tate treatment".

The GB News host Beverley Turner said Brand was welcome on her show "any time" and that he was being attacked for creating "autonomous, knowing and original content".

Brand's sister-in-law, the television presenter Kirsty Gallacher, initially shared his video on her Instagram story with a love heart, although she later deleted it.

Brand has amassed a large social media following - 3.8 million accounts on Instagram, 2.2 million on TikTok and 6.6 million on YouTube - and his videos often feature interviews with far-right influencers and promote conspiracy theories on issues such as Covid, the war in Ukraine and the climate crisis.


HACKETT
LONDON
JENSON BUTTON & MATTHEW GOODE

The Super Models

Documentary shows human side of gen X fashion's fab four



▼ *From left, Linda Evangelista, Christy Turlington, Naomi Campbell and Cindy Crawford in The Super Models* PHOTOGRAPH: MISAN HARRIMAN

Jess Cartner-Morley

Cindy, Christy, Naomi, Linda. For many women who were teenage girls in the late 1980s and early 90s, these were our Beatles.

And so the Apple TV+ documentary The Super Models, which is released on 20 September, is to a large slice of generation X what Peter Jackson's Get Back was to boomers. A strangely addictive encounter with four characters who wallpapered our lives, seen in a way in which we have never seen them before: as regular human beings.

There are shocking tales of an industry riven with racism, body shaming and abuse of power, but the most jaw-dropping moments are the anodyne ones. Hearing the women talk, seeing their faces at ease rather than frozen at their best angles. It is as if Mount Rushmore came alive and the four presidents began making small talk. To hear Linda Evangelista's voice - high and squeaky, when I had imagined something wolfish and smoky - blew my mind.

Warts-and-all filmmaking this is not. The stars are beautifully made up, carefully lit and in control of what we see - but where last month's Vogue cover was criticised for extensive airbrushing, this documentary has more candour.

We see Christy Turlington during the Covid pandemic, visiting her mum to cut her hair in the garden, grey roots showing in her own hair. Naomi Campbell berating herself, as she sparks up a cigarette, for being the only smoker in the group.

Evangelista in a vast funnel-neck sweater and a bucket hat which conspire to almost entirely hide her face, showing us the shame and insecurity that surrounds her experiment with cosmetic surgery.

The documentary splices current video interviews with archive footage. Other talking heads are kept to a minimum: this is these women telling their own story. Evangelista is smart, funny, saying unfiltered things like: "Christy is the most beautiful." (True.)

Cindy Crawford is businesslike and grounded. She saw the job as being hired to sell a jacket, not having her picture taken because she was pretty. (Campbell says mischievously that she found a way to stop Crawford being so sensible all the time: tequila.)

If ever a woman was born in the right place at the right time to lead the imperial age of the supermodel, it was Naomi Campbell. A natural self-mythologiser, Campbell "has presence. She's like a magnet," says the designer John Galliano.

Hal Rubenstein, the co-founder of InStyle magazine, describes her catwalk aura: "Naomi had a walk that basically said: 'Get the fuck out of my way.'" Turlington, by contrast, wears her beauty and celebrity lightly. She doesn't call herself a supermodel, "just model … I call a spade a spade."

The heart of the show is the bond among the four. "This is my class, the group I came of age with," says Turlington. Campbell says that when she was overlooked in favour of white models, the others "put themselves on the line" to oppose racial prejudice. "They supported me and stood by me. Linda would tell people: 'If you don't book Naomi, you don't get me.'"

But the dark side is the spotlight on a toxic culture which weighs the value of young women in pounds and ounces - the fewer, the better. Stories of fainting on shoots, of extremely thin models being told to lose another 5lb, are told with jaded weariness. We see Crawford's modelling card, printed with her waist, hip and bust measurements to the half-inch, the brutal tagline "EXCELLENT SKIN, LEGS AND HAIR" above her teenage face.

> ***'They supported me and stood by me. Linda would tell people: "If you don't book Naomi, you don't get me"'***
>
> **Naomi Campbell**
> *Supermodel*

When they talk about the money they made, we realise that the top tier of modelling has gone from well paid to silly money in just a couple of decades. (Evangelista caused a sensation in 1990 when said she didn't get out of bed for less than $10,000. These days influencers get many times that for touting a new lip gloss on Instagram without even having to get out of bed.)

The film does not flinch from the nasty underbelly of its world, but it allows us a little nostalgia too. As Evangelista says of how airbrushing and technology have changed the world of image-making: "Nowadays all the magic happens in post-production. But in the 80s and the early 90s, all that magic happened exactly in the moment you heard 'click'."

Thunderstorms bring month's worth of rain to southern UK

Mabel Banfield-Nwachi

More than a month's worth of rain was expected to fall in less than 24 hours in southern parts of the UK yesterday, as the Met Office warned severe thunderstorms could result in floods that posed a danger to life.

Travel was disrupted by the downpours, with Exeter airport cancelling flights, while 120mm (4.7in) of rain was forecast to fall in Taunton and Bridgwater in Somerset - exceeding the average rainfall for the whole of September. Videos posted on social media showed a flooded main terminal at the airport.

An amber weather warning for thunderstorms and heavy persistent rain with possible flooding was in place across parts of Devon and Somerset, while a yellow warning for thunderstorms was in place across the rest of the south-west of England and south Wales.

Yellow warnings for thunderstorms were also issued for London and the south-east, the east of England and the east Midlands, and were expected to last until 6am today.

A number of businesses were reported to have been flooded and Avon and Somerset police advised against nonessential travel, with many roads closed.

In Somerset and Devon, an additional 25mm-50mm of rain was expected to fall on top of the 30mm-60mm that had fallen in the preceding 12 hours as the thunderstorms moved gradually towards the north-east across parts of south-west England.

More than 100mm of rain was expected to have fallen by the end of yesterday in an area where the September average is 92.45mm. Other parts of the UK saw at least half a month's rainfall in less than 24 hours.

The Met Office meteorologist Jonathan Vautrey said it was worth checking the forecast before leaving the house to be informed about where the most severe thunderstorms were.

> **120mm**
>
> *Rain forecast to fall in parts of Somerset yesterday, exceeding the average for the whole of September*

"It is worth checking those things immediately before you head out on your journey so that you are aware where the most severe thunderstorms are possible.

"Make sure you are taking care as the weather could change at very short lead times," he said.

Conditions are expected to remain "blustery at times" early this week but are likely to be fresher.

More thunderstorms are possible as the remnants of Hurricane Lee, which hit New England in the US as well as eastern Canada, is set to move across the UK from tomorrow.

Labour refuses to say how many migrants it would accept in EU deal

Kiran Stacey
Political correspondent

Labour would not say yesterday how many more migrants it would accept under a returns deal with the EU if it came to power, as senior party figures insist they do not want to be bound by quotas.

Keir Starmer has said that if he became prime minister he would seek a deal with the EU to return some new arrivals to mainland Europe while allowing others to enter Britain.

His comments triggered claims from senior Conservatives that he planned to oversee 100,000 extra arrivals, which the Labour leader dismissed in an interview broadcast on Sunday as "complete garbage".

Starmer told Sky News' Trevor Phillips: "We will not be part of [an EU quota system], we are not an EU member. This is why what the government is saying has been complete garbage."

Labour officials admit any migration deal with the EU would require the UK to accept some people coming the other way, but Pat McFadden, the party's elections coordinator, said yesterday that it did not want to sign up to any hard and fast quotas.

"I don't think it's going to be an allocation of numbers," he told the BBC's Laura Kuenssberg. "We're talking about individual cases where a child may have strong family links here. It's not: 'We will take this many; you take that many.' That's not the kind of negotiation that we want to have."

Pushed by Times Radio to say how many extra people Labour may accept under a new agreement, McFadden said: "I don't think you can predict what the numbers will be when they're growing the way they have been in recent years."

Starmer spent Friday and Saturday in Montreal talking to fellow leaders of centre-left parties from around the world, including Justin Trudeau, the Canadian prime minister, and his Norwegian counterpart, Jonas Gahr Støre.

A Labour spokesperson said Starmer had told the Global Progress Action Summit that he believed the west was facing an "axis of instability" from the climate crisis, cross-border people smuggling, terrorism and assaults on democracy.

"If we are to succeed in our generational challenge of taking them on, we need a rewiring of global thinking and new partnerships," the Labour leader said.

Tomorrow, Starmer will travel to Paris for bilateral talks with the French president, Emmanuel Macron, in which migration is likely to feature heavily.

The meeting will help Starmer burnish his credentials as a potential prime minister in waiting, and is the latest stop on his tour as he seeks to build international relationships. Macron regularly meets opposition leaders of countries with close ties to France.

Starmer is expected to be accompanied by his new chief of staff, Sue Gray, the shadow chancellor, Rachel Reeves, and the shadow foreign secretary, David Lammy.

In an interview with Politico from Montreal, Starmer said he believed the UK should "wean itself off" Chinese influence when it comes to trade and technology.

Speaking a week after it emerged that a parliamentary researcher had been arrested on suspicion of spying for Beijing, Starmer said: "How do we wean ourselves off Chinese influence across the world? There are big questions that progressive governments could face together."

Ministers, however, have defended their engagement with Beijing, including the meeting between the prime minister, Rishi Sunak, and the Chinese premier, Li Qiang, in Delhi a week ago.

The foreign secretary, James Cleverly, told Kuenssberg on Sunday: "Pretending China doesn't exist and disengaging is not a credible policy."



◀ *The Canadian prime minister, Justin Trudeau, meets Keir Starmer at the Global Progress Action Summit in Montreal*
PHOTOGRAPH: CANADIAN PRESS/ SHUTTERSTOCK



'Bankrolled by billionaires'

How Tony Blair Institute expanded to 800 staff and annual revenue of $80m

Kiran Stacey
Political correspondent

As prime minister, Tony Blair oversaw a few hundred Downing Street staff and one country. Sixteen years later, he is responsible for more than 800 staff who help advance his policies in nearly 40 different countries.

Since leaving No 10, the former prime minister has arguably become more powerful thanks to the work of the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change (TBI), which has exploded in size and revenue during the last few years. Its accounts show it made more than $81m (£65m) in revenue in 2021 – a 78% increase on the previous year.

With the Labour leader, Keir Starmer, increasingly turning to him for advice, the influence of both Blair and his institute could soon grow further. Benedict Macon-Cooney, the institute's chief policy strategist, told the Guardian: "Other organisations around the world help governments think about delivery, but not with the same degree of expertise that we are able to offer thanks to the former prime minister."

Blair himself told the Financial Times this week: "I want [the institute] to be entrepreneurial, agile and give governments good solid advice."

Critics accuse Blair of using the institute to advance his own ideological views as well as the causes of its corporate backers. A spokesperson for the leftwing campaign group Momentum said: "It's deeply worrying to hear of the Tony Blair Institute's extensive influence in Keir Starmer's Labour.

"This is an organisation bankrolled by billionaires, which continues to advise and take money from the murderous Saudi government."

After leaving Downing Street, Blair pursued a handful of different activities. They included advising the US bank JP Morgan for $1m a year, as well as the insurance group Zurich for a reported six-figure salary. His profit-making





▲ *Mohammed bin Salman's Saudia Arabia is a controversial TBI client*

consultancy work abroad – such as helping the Saudi-owned company PetroSaudi do business in China for a monthly salary of £41,000 plus a 2% commission – attracted the fiercest criticism.

In 2017, Blair decided to wrap all his commercial and philanthropic activities, including the Tony Blair Faith Foundation, the Tony Blair Sports Foundation, the Tony Blair Governance Initiative and Tony Blair Associates, into one organisation, to be known as the

▼ *Tony Blair, left, with Larry Ellison, the tech billionaire and one of the TBI's biggest donors, in 2009*
PHOTOGRAPH: XPOSUREPHOTOS.COM





◀ *The chef, restaurateur and campaigner Jamie Oliver speaks at the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change's Future of Britain Conference in central London last July*
PHOTOGRAPH: STEFAN ROUSSEAU/PA

Tony Blair Institute for Global Change. The new organisation would use money from donations and commercial activities to fund philanthropic and policy analysis work. As a whole, the organisation is not run for profit and Blair himself does not receive a salary.

Since 2017, the organisation has grown steadily in terms of its finances and influence. It now works all over the world. Last week the TBI recruited the former Finnish prime minister Sanna Marin, who said on joining: "I believe that I can serve those voters [in Finland] well and maybe even better in the new assignment."

Marin, Blair and Starmer all spent the weekend in Montreal as part of a gathering of centre-left leaders from around the world.

In its size and scale, the institute resembles less a British thinktank and more the kind of globe-straddling foundation that US presidents sometimes set up after leaving office - a UK version of the Clinton Foundation. One of its most controversial clients is Saudi Arabia, which the TBI continues to advise even after the murder of the journalist Jamal Khashoggi in 2018. Blair told the FT this week: "If we don't work in any country where there are problems of human rights, you're going to be working with a small list of countries."

Macon-Cooney, who worked for the TBI in Rwanda advising the authoritarian president, Paul Kagame, added: "The judgment that we make with any country is where do we think it is going. In Rwanda there is a very, very deep focus on trying to promote stability and economic growth."

In the UK, the TBI came to the fore during the Covid-19 pandemic, when it released a series of policy proposals that often foreshadowed what the government would do. They included rolling out widespread rapid testing and reducing the interval between the first and second vaccine doses.

Technology is the policy area that underpins much of what the institute does. Blair's belief that governments can cut their costs by embracing cutting-edge technology is promoted by the institute as a whole, which advocates for countries to roll out digital identification cards and to spend heavily on artificial intelligence.

The institute also pushes for governments around the world to digitise their health records - an agenda that happens to tally with the corporate interests of one of its biggest donors, Larry Ellison.

Ellison, who co-founded the technology company Oracle and has ties to Donald Trump, has long been a strong supporter of the TBI.

In 2021 Ellison gave the TBI $33.8m through his philanthropic foundation and promised another $49.4m in 2022. That was also the year Oracle bought the healthcare IT company Cerner for $28bn. Today, the TBI is a major advocate for countries to move patient records into the digital realm, something it argues can help patients and cut government costs.

Macon-Cooney insists the institute's policy positions are not shaped by its donors' corporate interests. "There is no conflict of interest, and donations are ringfenced," he said. But he added that the TBI does help put public officials in touch with firms it believes can help them deliver the changes for which it advocates: "Sometimes the state is the best way to do things, but if we look around and see private providers which would be better at helping with reforms, then we will say so."

In his recent reshuffle, Starmer promoted figures from the Blairite wing of the party, including Liz Kendall as shadow welfare secretary and Pat McFadden as his election coordinator. McFadden's wife, Marianna, was also recruited from the TBI to help plan the election campaign - a route many in Labour expect others will soon follow.

One Labour source said: "If you think the TBI is influential right now, just wait until we get into power and have to recruit half our staff from there."

Wales
Tories called out for stirring 'culture war' over 20mph speed limit

Steven Morris



▲ *A tractor and a supermarket delivery van pass a 20mph sign in St Brides Major, Vale of Glamorgan*
PHOTOGRAPH: DIMITRIS LEGAKIS/ATHENA

The Labour-led Welsh government has said introducing a default 20mph speed limit for residential roads is one of the most significant changes in 25 years of devolution and accused the Conservatives of waging a "culture war" against it.

From yesterday, most roads in Wales that were 30mph became 20mph, although councils have discretion to make exemptions.

Lee Waters, the deputy minister for climate change, said: "It's a big deal. I do think it's one of the most significant things that we've done since devolution in 25 years if you think of the impact it's going to have.

"There's not a community in Wales that's not going to be touched by this. It's one of those policies that has got real cut-through. This is something everybody has heard of and most people have an opinion about."

Wales becomes the first country in the UK to introduce the 20mph limit, a move welcomed by road campaigners but unpopular with many voters.

Waters said the administration had expected opposition to grow as the law came into force. "Three years ago we polled and got 80% support. A year ago we got 60% support. There was a poll last week showing it had gone down to 35%'" he said. "I'm not surprised it's dipping, particularly given the misinformation there is. We're expecting it to rise as people get used to it.

"We've been working with the police and have trialled enforcement …. advice from the behavioural experts is to take an education-led approach, not a punitive one. If people are caught by a roadside patrol doing less than 30 [but more than 20] they will receive words of advice. Depending on the speed they are doing they may be offered an awareness course.

"We are working with the fire service because these are the guys who cut people out of cars. They're going to have patrols where they talk people through why they shouldn't be doing it. If people do more than 30 we will be taking a stronger approach where there will be three points and a £100 fine."

He added: "In trials we found the average speed did drop, not to 20 but to around 27. But the number of people doing over 30 falls significantly and that's the big win."

Waters said he was not surprised that the Tories, including the leader of the Commons, Penny Mordaunt, had attacked the law. "The Tories are clearly searching for any culture war they can grab on to to deflect attention from their record. They've cottoned on there is opposition and it's a bandwagon they can jump on to. It's pretty grubby stuff."

> *'The Tories cottoned on there is opposition … it's pretty grubby'*
>
> **Lee Waters**
> *Deputy minister*

A number of organisations have signed an open letter backing the move including Brake, Action for Children, Cycling UK Cymru, Friends of the Earth Cymru, Natural Resources Wales, Play Wales, Sustrans Cymru and the UK Noise Association. The Welsh Local Government Association, which represents the 22 local authorities in Wales, has also signed.

The letter says the 20mph limit will make a "huge contribution towards fairer streets and more liveable communities." It adds: "It's not just a road safety benefit. It also supports broader health, climate and societal goals such as helping the vulnerable to get about, improving social connection, reducing air and noise pollution, and more."

The Conservatives have focused on a report suggesting longer journey times would cost the Welsh economy £4.5bn over 30 years.

Andrew RT Davies, the leader of the Conservatives in the Senedd, said: "Whilst I agree that 20mph is sensible outside heavily pedestrianised areas, such as schools, hospitals and care homes, the Labour government's blanket 20mph speed limit rollout across Wales is simply ludicrous."

Liz Truss 'Consensus' to blame for economic woes, says ex-PM

Kiran Stacey
Political correspondent

Liz Truss will blame the UK's economic problems on "25 years of economic consensus" as she doubles down on the policy proposals that helped trigger financial turmoil and led to her being ousted from Downing Street after just 49 days.

The former prime minister will give a speech at the Institute for Government today, almost exactly a year since her government's "mini-budget" which caused the pound to crash and led to her downfall.

Speaking days after it emerged the UK economy shrank by 0.5% in July, Truss will insist the UK's current economic problems are not her fault.

"I believe that the reason for the problems we have is the 25 years of economic consensus that have led us to this period of stagnation," she will say, according to extracts from her speech briefed in advance. "It is vital that we understand that and shatter that economic consensus if we are to avoid worse problems in the future."

Truss will add: "Some say this is a crisis of capitalism - that free markets are responsible. But that's not borne out by the facts … Since the Labour government was elected in 1997, we have moved towards being a more corporatist social democracy than we were in the 1980s and 1990s."

Truss has spent the last few months attempting to rehabilitate her political reputation following her turbulent time in No 10.

Last week she gave an interview to the Mail on Sunday in which she accused the Bank of England and the Office for Budget Responsibility of being part of "an orthodoxy that was gradually moving to the left". In today's speech she will say: "Free market economists went off to lucrative jobs in the City, allowing academic institutions and think-tanks to be captured by the left."

Truss' opponents reacted to news of the speech by renewing criticism of her premiership. Daisy Cooper, the Liberal Democrat deputy leader, likened the speech to "an arsonist giving a talk on fire safety", while Labour urged Rishi Sunak to block her planned resignation honours list.

Truss is writing a book about her period in office, Ten Years to Save the West, which is due out next spring.

But further details about that time emerged over the weekend in extracts from a forthcoming book by the Telegraph's political editor, Ben Riley-Smith. According to the book, senior officials at No 10 and the Treasury had to persuade Truss to abandon many of her flagship policies.

Woman charged with murder after two people in their 70s go missing

PA Media

A 35-year-old woman has been charged with the murder of two people in their 70s as police continue an investigation into their disappearance.

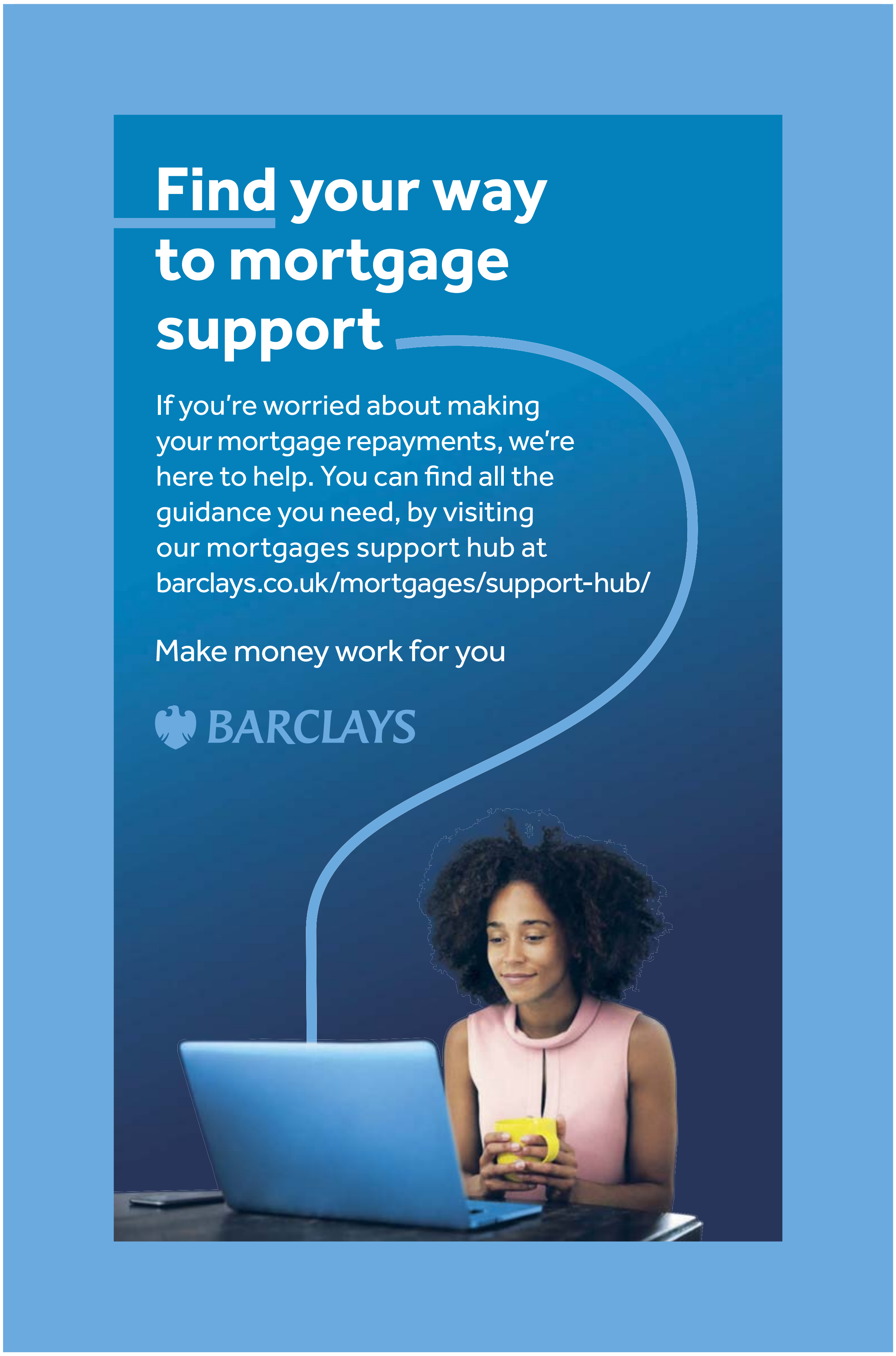
Essex police received reports of concerns for the welfare of the two people on Wednesday. The force said it now believed the pair had died.

Virginia McCullough, of Pump Hill, Chelmsford, has been charged with two counts of murder. She is due to appear at Chelmsford magistrates court today.

Det Supt Rob Kirby, of the Kent and Essex serious crime directorate, said: "Although we have received authorisation to charge Virginia McCullough, this complex and in-depth investigation will be continuing at pace."

Kirby added: "I would also reiterate that our continued belief is that this is an isolated incident and there is no threat to the wider Chelmsford or Essex public.

"Our thoughts today are with the families of everyone involved and I can assure them all avenues of inquiry will be pursued extensively."



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Poll reveals big support in Scotland for assisted dying bill

Severin Carrell
Scotland editor

A large majority of Scottish voters support plans to allow terminally ill people to take their own lives, according to a poll.

A bill to legalise assisted dying in Scotland is to be published by the Scottish parliament in a fresh attempt to get the measure enacted for the first time in the UK.

The YouGov poll for the campaign group Dignity in Dying found that 77% of those questioned supported the measure, with 12% opposed.

The findings also suggest attitudes have shifted in favour of legalisation among people with a religious faith.

This year, the Church of Scotland suspended its opposition to assisted dying, voting to explore "theological views and ethical opinions" before deciding on its stance.

The poll found majority support for the bill among Church of Scotland members, Anglicans and Roman Catholic voters. Most of the 354 respondents who had some or "a lot" of life-limiting health or disability issues also backed it.

Liam McArthur, the Scottish Liberal Democrat MSP tabling the bill, said the findings proved that the measures were widely supported. "We know that excellent palliative care is the right path for the majority of dying people, but there are also those who face a bad death, dying in great distress," he said.

His bill has been supported by 36 MSPs from all parties, but it is expected to be fiercely opposed by disability rights and faith groups.

Opponents argue it is ethically wrong for the state to approve suicide, and that once even limited rights to assisted dying are in law the pressure to reduce the restrictions on eligibility will inevitably grow. It will put the vulnerable, weak and poor under greater pressure to choose assisted suicide, they argue.

This month Humza Yousaf, Scotland's first minister, and Michael Matheson, the health secretary, said they opposed the measure, as does Anas Sarwar, the Scottish Labour leader. Yousaf and Sarwar are Muslims; Matheson is Catholic. Islam, like Judaism and mainstream Christianity, proscribes suicide.

McArthur's bill will be the fourth attempt to introduce assisted dying legislation at Holyrood. In an effort to allay fears that the measures will be too broad, McArthur's bill will only be open to those with a certificate signed by two doctors stating they are terminally ill, of sound mind and under no pressure.

Yousaf told the Daily Record his opposition had hardened after meeting disability rights activists. "They were incredibly strong in their opposition to assisted dying, given that they felt they would be the ones, as they described it, that would be the thin end of the wedge," he said.



◀ *Suzie McAllister's husband, Colin, died in pain from a stomach tumour this year and wanted to end his life. 'You can't tell me the way he died was moral,' she says*
PHOTOGRAPH: MURDO MACLEOD/ THE GUARDIAN

Pleas for change 'I don't want to suffer'

Theresa George says she has no fear of dying but does have a fear of how she dies. She has a degenerative, incurable condition and the stress and anxiety can at times feel overwhelming.

George, 63, has lived for 20 years on North Uist in the Outer Hebrides with her partner, Maire Coniglio. Late last year she was diagnosed with motor neurone disease.

It began with loss of mobility in her left ankle and foot, spread to her leg and now her left side is subject to tremors and weakness. She is dependent on a motorised wheelchair.

"I'm slowly watching myself deteriorate," she says. "I don't have a fear of dying, but I do have a fear of how I die. I think most people can relate to that.

"I don't want to die but, more so, I don't want to suffer."

Suzie McAllister, 47, a teacher in Fort William cared for her husband, Colin, a fit and active climber and kayaker, as he died in great pain from an aggressive and untreatable stomach tumour this year.

The sedatives and pain relief he was given failed to alleviate his suffering, she says. "He had no control, no right to choose, and that's what made him angry," she says. "You can't tell me that the way Colin died was moral in any way. The autonomy, the will of the patient, has to be considered."
Severin Carrell



◀ Dyrham Park in Gloucestershire was updated as part of the charity's conservation work in 2022-23 PHOTOGRAPH: BEN BIRCHALL/PA

National Trust spends £180m on conservation work as costs balloon

Harriet Sherwood
Arts and culture correspondent

The National Trust spent a record £179.6m on the conservation of its historic buildings and collections in the last year, as it faced significant challenges amid rising costs.

Its coffers were boosted by a rise in visitors to pay-for-entry venues and record amounts bequeathed in legacies, its annual report says. The report also shows membership stable at about 5.7 million. It is published today before the trust's annual meeting in November, at which it will face a fresh challenge from a group opposed to its alleged "politicisation".

Restore Trust rejects what it has described as a "woke" agenda and said it wants to steer the charity "back to its core purpose of looking after our heritage and countryside".

The group has endorsed five candidates standing for election to the trust's 36-member governing council. Most prominent among them is Lord Sumption, a former supreme court judge, who has said the trust's power for good is being undermined by "disputes about [its] mission". Last year, none of the seven candidates backed by Restore Trust won council seats.

The 2022-23 annual report shows the trust funded 13,245 hours of work on delicate historic collections in its two conservation studios as part of an ambitious programme to protect the heritage in its custody.

£11m
Amount the National Trust spent on energy, doubling the bill of the previous financial year

It spent £25.6m on "significant acquisitions". Income from legacies topped £70m and its secondhand bookshops turned a profit of £2.5m. Membership rose from 5.71 million in 2021-22 to 5.73 million. The cost of individual membership increased 16.5% in March to £84 annually.

Hilary McGrady, the trust's director general, said: "The record funds we dedicated in the last financial year reflects the NT's enduring commitment to the beautiful historic places in its care, and the nation's enthusiasm for this."

She added: "We were able to make this significant investment during a particularly difficult economic environment, with rising costs and continued recovery from the pandemic, thanks to the millions of people who supported our cause."

John Orna-Ornstein, the trust's director of culture and engagement, said rising costs included a doubling of the trust's energy bill to £11m a year . It also increased its workforce slightly after cutting 1,700 jobs in 2020-21, when the Covid pandemic forced it to close its properties.

Rock review

Return to elegant nihilism builds to one long scream

The National
Laugh Track (4AD)
★★★★☆

Shaad D'Souza

The National became one of the defining indie bands of the late 2000s and early 2010s for two reasons: their combination of stately literary flourishes and musical aggression that often builds to a baroque, brutal climax, and their unique gift for capturing genteel gen X and millennial mania.

The Ohio-born band make music for a generation whose freeform employment ended up being as soul-crushing as their parents' cubicle jobs. I say this as a compliment: it's challenging to write about middle-class malaise and make it sound so gripping.

In recent years, the band have faced criticism for becoming boring. That's hard to argue regarding the music: there were fairly drastic overhauls in 2017's Sleep Well Beast, finding a midway point between frosty IDM and U2-ish bombast, and 2019's I Am Easy to Find, which introduced female singers to counterpoint frontman Matt Berninger's rich baritone. The criticism seems to refer to a kind of lyrical slippage from reckless romanticism and withering creative-class satire to half-hearted depiction of an upper-middle class creative life. Take Eucalyptus, from the band's ninth album, First Two Pages of Frankenstein, released in April, in which the protagonist wonders what to do about the bulk luxury water delivery once his wife's gone.

Laugh Track, a surprise 10th album, is billed as the second half of Frankenstein, with all but one song written at the same time. But Laugh Track adopts a more grownup take on the existential conundrums of earlier records. This album again finds Berninger playing the role of the elegant nihilist. The central metaphor of the title track, a Phoebe Bridgers collaboration, is a bitter complement to a sad acceptance of one's fate: "Maybe we'll never lighten up / Maybe this isn't gonna quit / I think it's never coming back." Berninger and Bridgers' interwoven vocals are lovely; the sentiment is shatteringly bleak.

Laugh Track closes with the strange, nauseating, eight-minute post-punk tirade Smoke Detector. It reframes the whole album: here, finally, is the teeth-baring payoff to 11 songs of building dread and anxiety. It feels like one long scream, a frustrated rejoinder to the album's sad-sack protagonists: "Sift through the slush and the ash and the dust / Or whatever stands out for whatever reason," Berninger rages. It's a moment of intense, acidic awakening that feels like a fresh start.



▲ The National's surprise 10th album feels like a fresh beginning

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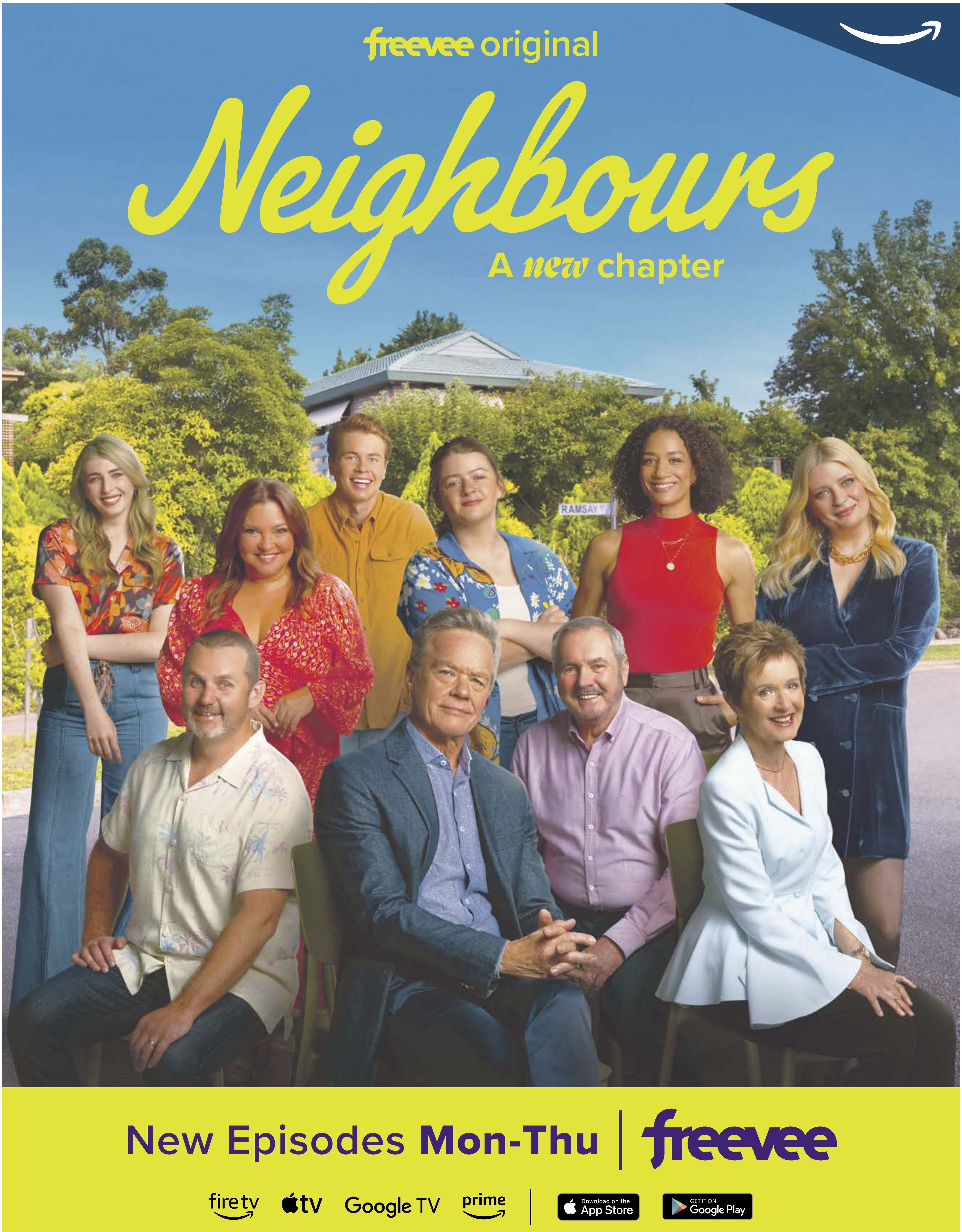
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Fresh NHS strikes 'will cause unprecedented disruption'

Sophie Zeldin-O'Neill

NHS officials have warned that doctors' strikes this week are likely to cause disruption to patient care "unlike anything before", with consultants and junior doctors taking joint strike action on Wednesday for the first time in the escalating dispute over pay.

Junior doctors have already staged five days of industrial action this year and will strike again from 20 to 22 September - the first day of which coincides with action by consultants.

Almost 1 million appointments and treatments have been postponed since industrial action began in December, and waiting lists have hit a record high, leading NHS trust leaders to express serious concerns over the impact on patient care.

Saffron Cordery, the deputy chief executive of NHS Providers, said: "This week's industrial action, including a joint walkout by consultants and junior doctors for the first time, is likely to cause disruption to patient care unlike anything we've seen before. The continuing dispute - and the absence of meaningful dialogue between the two sides - is worrying for patients, demoralising for staff and damaging for the NHS."

In recent weeks, there have been reports of some patients having their operations delayed multiple times. At least one trust has deployed volunteers for the first time, to support patients with meals and drinks and provide company during strikes.

£1bn

Estimated cost of industrial action to the NHS so far. Consultants and junior doctors will strike this week

Others have said they are worried that senior doctors are increasingly unwilling to cover shifts when junior doctors are striking.

The British Medical Association says a 35% pay rise is needed for junior doctors to make up for 15 years of below-inflation wage rises. NHS industrial action is estimated to have cost at least £1bn so far, and last week, Rishi Sunak said the government's target to reduce the hospital waiting list in England was in doubt.

Sick children 'forgotten casualties' of waiting list crisis, doctors warn

Denis Campbell
Health policy editor

Sick children's health problems are getting worse as record numbers wait up to 18 months for NHS care, doctors treating them warned yesterday.

The number of under-18s on the waiting list for paediatric care in England has soared to 423,500, the highest on record, and 23,396 of those have been forced to wait over a year for their appointment.

Delays facing children and young people are now so common that Dr Jeanette Dickson, the chair of the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges (AoMRC) - the body representing all the UK's doctors professionally - said: "Children are the forgotten casualties of the NHS's waiting list crisis."

Fifty-seven per cent of children are now seen within 18 weeks, even though the NHS treatment target is 92%. The number on the waiting list has jumped by 52% since 2021.

Dr Camilla Kingdon, the president of the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH) and a consultant paediatrician in London, said: "I've seen first hand the damaging impact that long waiting times have on children, on their education and overall wellbeing and of course on their families."

The figures came from the RCPCH's analysis of official performance data recently published by NHS England.

The health of some children is deteriorating while they languish on the waiting list because their illness and age means they need to have their treatment fast, Kingdon added. "Many treatments and interventions must be administered within specific age or developmental stages. No one wants to wait for treatment, but children's care is frequently 'time-critical'."

Kingdon cited the example of the speech and language development of children with serious hearing problems being affected by waiting to have cochlear implant surgery. Under-18s are also facing long delays for community-based services, not just hospital care, she added.

Dickson and Kingdon voiced their fears as the AoMRC published a report on children's health which criticised the government for ignoring young people's needs when devising key health policies.

Dickson said: "All medical royal college leaders are genuinely horrified at the current lack of emphasis on the health of children and young people. It's as if they don't exist."

The report highlights the government's controversial decision to publish a strategy covering a large number of major conditions, instead of having specific plans for each one. Although the strategy will replace several key child health plans, it mainly focuses on adults' health.

The Department of Health and Social Care said: "Cutting waiting lists is one of the government's top five priorities and despite disruption from strikes, we have virtually eliminated 18-month waits and are taking immediate action to bring down long waits.

"We are improving support for children, young people and their families by providing around £300m to fund a three-year Family Hubs and Start for Life programme in 75 local authorities in England."



◀ *At 423,500, the number of children on the NHS waiting list for paediatric care in England is the highest on record*
PHOTOGRAPH: SOLSTOCK/GETTY



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Charity warns lord chancellor to act over legal aid for asylum seekers

Haroon Siddique
Legal affairs correspondent

The availability of legal aid for immigration and asylum in England and Wales is so poor the lord chancellor is in breach of his duty to provide access to justice, according to a letter threatening him with legal action. The letter, sent to Alex Chalk by the Public Law Project (PLP), says there are particular shortages in north-west and south-west England, with the latter having capacity for fewer than 300 cases a year despite being home to the Bibby Stockholm, which can house about 500 people.

The PLP found that charities supporting refugees and asylum seekers made 16 attempts on average before securing a legal aid lawyer.

Daniel Rourke, the PLP's lead lawyer, said: "Our immigration system needs legal aid to ensure that fair decisions are made. Without it, the Home Office and [immigration] tribunal risk making decisions that condemn people to persecution abroad, or destitution in the UK."

The government said it had invested £44m in the past year on legal aid in immigration cases.





◀ *Noeleen Lalara, an Anindilyakwa elder, centre, with Amethea Mamarika and Maicie Lalara, at the handover of items from Manchester Museum earlier this month*
PHOTOGRAPH: CHRISTOPHER THOMOND/ THE GUARDIAN

Repatriation

Regional museums lead way on global effort to return items

Mark Brown

In the past two years Glasgow has become the first UK museum to repatriate objects to India. Newcastle and the Horniman in south London followed an example set by Aberdeen and Cambridge universities by returning looted Benin bronzes to Nigeria. Exeter handed sacred regalia to the Siksika Nation in Canada. Oxford returned the remains of 18 indigenous people to Australia.

Earlier this month Manchester completed a landmark return of 174 objects to the to the Anindilyakwa community, who live on an archipelago in the Gulf of Carpentaria, off northern Australia.

It was a tearful handover which



▲ *National Museums of Scotland returned the Ni'isjoohl memorial pole to the Nisga'a nation in 2022*

Minister urges students to talk to each other about loneliness

Amelia Hill

Millions of teenagers across England, Wales and Northern Ireland will arrive at university in the coming fortnight as freshers' weeks begin.

Almost all will experience bouts of loneliness, with nearly half being worried they will be judged if they admit to it, according to a YouGov poll of 1,000 students.

To try to tackle the issue, the minister for loneliness, Stuart Andrew, has launched an awareness campaign. Partnering with the charities Sporting Wellness and Student Minds, as well as the Student Radio Association and the accommodation website Student Roost, he wants students to open up and talk to each other.

"Going to university can be the biggest transition young people have faced," he said. "We want them to enjoy their experience at university and excel in their education, so we're highlighting that it will help them to speak to other undergraduates about their feelings."

The campaign has been welcomed by Robin Hewings, the programme director of the Campaign to End Loneliness. "Demographically, chronically lonely students are more likely to be LGBT+, from [households with semi-skilled or unskilled occupation] social groups and females," he said. Concrete action, he added, was "largely best done by universities".

But the campaign has been criticised for being tokenistic. Chloe Field, the vice-president for higher education at the National Union of Students, said it was the latest example of the government "using mental health as a buzzword without doing anything practical about it".

Unesco hailed a "historic, moving" example of repatriation which it hoped others would see as a model.

The scale of repatriation – or rematriation, as it was proudly labelled by a Scottish museum returning a totem pole to Canada – is unprecedented. But missing from all this, campaigners say, are London-based national museums, which look increasingly isolated.

"Regional museums are so far ahead of national institutions," said Lewis McNaught, who runs the not-for-profit Returning Heritage project. "The trend is actually now global. The UK is really falling behind quite dramatically."

Dan Hicks, a professor of contemporary archaeology at Oxford University and a curator at the city's Pitt Rivers Museum, said repatriation had become part of the "fake culture wars", with some on the right seeing it as "wokery".

"What that means, sadly, is that our national institutions are being forced into a position of inertia and making themselves more irrelevant every week that goes by and with every restitution that we see from the regions and elsewhere around the world," he said. "Everyone else is getting on with it."

The big reason for the two different narratives is that the London-based national museums are hamstrung by legislation.

The British Museum Act 1963 specifically forbids the museum from disposing of its holdings. The National Heritage Act of 1983 prevents trustees of institutions, including the V&A and Science Museum, from deaccessioning objects unless they are duplicates or beyond repair.

Regional museums, which are run by local authorities, universities or are regimental or private, don't have the same issue.

Repatriation was not a new issue or debate, said Hicks. "There is a deep and long history to restitution in this country. Edinburgh university was returning human remains two generations ago, never mind one generation … There are scores, if not hundreds of stories, over the past 40 to 50 years. It should be part of what museums do. It's a part of the job."



Clockwise from above: the Cannon of Kandy; a Sri Lankan sword; a jewel from the 'Lombok treasure'; an Anindilyakwa artefact; and another treasure from Lombok in Indonesia



◀ Anindilyakwa shell dolls that were returned to their Aboriginal owners
PHOTOGRAPH: MANCHESTER MUSEUM

Glasgow is seen as a leader in the repatriation conversation since an agreement in 1998 to return a Sioux warrior shirt acquired in the 19th century from Buffalo Bill's wild west show. The return of the Lakota Sacred Ghost Dance shirt to the Wounded Knee Survivors Association established criteria that have been widely adopted in the museum sector.

Duncan Dornan, the head of museums and collections at Glasgow Life, said repatriation should be seen as a two-way process and recalled the joy at the signing ceremony last year for the repatriation of artefacts to India.

"It was a very emotional event, and Glaswegians of Indian heritage were very emotional. Their response was that they were very proud of their city," he said. "We see repatriation as establishing a relationship of equals and emphasising Glasgow as an outward-looking modern city."

The recent Manchester Museum return of objects was seen as important because the organisation was not giving back artefacts that had been looted. They were everyday objects including dolls made from shells, baskets and boomerangs.

"We believe this is the future of museums," said Esme Ward, the director of Manchester Museum. "This is how we should be."

The UK government has no plans to change the law, which could then lead to movement in some of the most high-profile repatriation debates such as the Parthenon marbles and the Benin bronzes.

Lord Vaizey, a former long-serving Conservative arts minister, has said the 1983 act "makes it almost impossible for UK museums to establish themselves as outward-looking, modern institutions fit for purpose in the 21st century".

> ***'Our national institutions are making themselves more irrelevant every week'***
>
> **Prof Dan Hicks**
> *Pitt Rivers Museum curator*

There are ways of getting around the act. The V&A said last year that it was returning the Head of Eros, a life-sized marble carving dating to the 3rd century AD, to Turkey to be reattached to the famous Sidamara sarcophagus. It made good a promise made by Britain in 1934, but the arrangement is essentially a long-term loan, not an unconditional return.

Across the world, from the US to France to Germany and the Vatican, countries are repatriating objects. "Almost everywhere you look, items are being returned," said McNaught.

In July, for example, the Netherlands repatriated nearly 500 looted objects to Sri Lanka and Indonesia. They included the famous and fabulous ruby-inlaid Cannon of Kandy dating from 1745, one of six objects from the Rijksmuseum which represented the first return of colonial items from the museum's collection. Items being returned to Indonesia included the "Lombok treasure", 335 precious stones, gold and silver jewellery looted by Dutch troops from a Balinese royal palace.

The Vatican has also voiced willingness to return indigenous artefacts. "The Seventh Commandment comes to mind: If you steal something you have to give it back," Pope Francis said in April.

The London-based national museums are undoubtedly hamstrung by law, but that does not stop regular demands for the return of objects.



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LIBYA FLOODS EMERGENCY

Will you help families whose homes were swept away in the devastating floods?

The flooding caused by Storm Daniel has killed thousands, and thousands more people have lost their homes and everything they own. In Derna, the worst affected town, entire neighbourhoods have disappeared, homes and roads have been washed away, while hospitals and other critical infrastructure have been severely damaged.

UNHCR's Response

UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, already had a significant presence in the country, helping protect around 50,000 registered refugees and asylum seekers. When the storm hit, UNHCR teams on the ground were able to act quickly, trucking humanitarian aid to Derna and nearby Benghazi.

Right now, UNHCR is working with partners to rapidly scale up its emergency operations in Libya and urgently needs your help to get lifesaving aid to more people.

Please will you give £96 to help provide blankets, shelter supplies, a solar lamp and hygiene kit to a family who has lost everything?

As well as providing material aid, UNHCR has activated an emergency hotline to assist refugees who have been affected by the flooding. UNHCR is also prioritising shelter for children separated from their families and other vulnerable people, and providing medical supplies and equipment to health facilities.

Jens Laerke, spokesperson for the UN Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), told the BBC that the water system has been contaminated.

"People need to drink and if they start to drink contaminated water, we could see a secondary wave of disease and even death... We are rushing in all the aid we possibly can at the moment. It really is all hands on deck."

Your support is urgently needed

The next few days are critical. The humanitarian needs are huge, with displaced people urgently needing shelter and material assistance.

With your support, however, UNHCR has the reach, partners and logistical capabilities to get aid to the most vulnerable families.

Please give £96 today and help rush lifesaving aid to families who have lost everything.



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£96 could help provide lifesaving aid such as shelter supplies, blankets, solar lamps and hygiene kits.

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◀ *Men who travelled to Lampedusa from north Africa by boat queue for food. Almost 8,500 people landed on the island in three days last week*

PHOTOGRAPHS: ROBERTO SALOMONE/THE GUARDIAN/ANSA/AFP

Meloni urges EU cooperation to 'stop departures' of people trying to cross from Africa



▲ *Giorgia Meloni, right, and Ursula von der Leyen in Lampedusa yesterday*

Angela Giuffrida *Lampedusa*
Lisa O'Carroll *Brussels*

Italy's prime minister said yesterday that European countries must work together "to stop departures [from Africa]" and deport those turned down for asylum, who she said "threaten the future of Europe", after thousands of people had arrived on Lampedusa in the last week.

Giorgia Meloni toured the tiny Sicilian island, which for years has been the first port of call for people making the treacherous journey by sea from north Africa, alongside Ursula von der Leyen, the European Commission president.

The three-hour visit, which included a stop at an overcrowded reception centre and a site near the port that contains the remains of flimsy boats used by migrants, came after almost 8,500 people landed within three days last week – more than the island's population of 6,000.

In recent days, there have been chaotic scenes at the reception centre, which only has the capacity to host 400 people, with some people sleeping on the rubbish-strewn street outside and others trying to escape over a fence.

But by the time Meloni and Von der Leyen arrived, the majority had been transferred off the island to centres in Sicily or mainland Italy and the area around the centre made to look almost pristine.

Meloni, whose far-right coalition government took power last October, said the influx threatened "the future of Europe" and that "serious solutions" were needed, such as cracking down on people smugglers, swiftly deporting illegal immigrants and moving quickly to implement a deal signed this year with Tunisia.

"If anyone thinks that this crisis we are facing could be just resolved within Italian borders it would be a very big mistake because this problem involves everyone and needs to be tackled by everyone," said Meloni. "I continue to say that the only way to resolve it is to stop departures."

Von der Leyen promised the swift deportation of those who failed to be granted asylum and a crackdown on the "brutal business" of people smuggling. "We will decide who comes to the European Union, and under what circumstances. Not the smugglers," she said.

She outlined a 10-point plan, including providing Italy with support in processing new arrivals while "exploring options to expand existing naval missions in the Mediterranean, or to work on new ones". Von der Leyen also urged member states to make use of a mechanism enabling them to voluntarily take in refugees to help ease the burden on Italy.

However, people are continuing to arrive on the island. Most had set off from Tunisia, where in July Meloni and Von der Leyen had signed a controversial £105m deal to stem irregular migration.

No money has yet changed hands and there has been criticism that the numbers of people crossing from Tunisia to Italy has gone up almost 70% in the months after the deal, which experts put down to the weather.

Over 127,000 people – more than double the number in the same period last year – have landed on Italian soil so far in 2023.

"I'm travelling to fulfil my dream, which is to go to England, finish my studies and become a doctor," said Musa Adam from Sudan, as he waited to be transferred off the island on Saturday night. He said he had tried to reach Europe by boat from Libya four times but was captured by the Libyan coastguard and imprisoned.

"We were beaten," he said. "I saw friends die of disease and hunger." He then crossed the desert to Tunisia, where "there are no jobs and no houses – we slept on the street.

"I have overcome so many challenges already, but I need to stay positive and keep going."

The latest crisis has reignited a debate over the division of responsibility among EU states and raised questions about the feasibility of deals with north African countries.

Lampedusa, which lies closer to Tunisia than Sicily, has been dealing with migration from north Africa for more than 30 years, but patience on the island is wearing thin.

"We hate to see people suffering and have always been there to pull bodies from the sea or provide food and clothing," said Giorgia Pirotta, a Lampedusa resident. "But we can't live like this any more. These people deserve respect, and so do we."

Meloni, whose election pledge was to stop illegal immigration, is hoping the deal with Tunisia can provide a solution. The EU has insisted that the budget allocated to Tunisia would be paid out – it is currently refitting 17 vessels for the Tunisian authorities for search and rescue operations.

However, a group of MEPs were refused entry to the country, raising fresh concerns about President Kais Saied's commitment to address questions of human rights abuses. He has previously declared that Tunisia would not be Europe's border guard.





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	iPhone 15 Pro (128GB)	36 months	£26	£936	£59	£995	0%		24 months	£20	£23pm

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Russia imported $7m of Halliburton equipment in past year, records show

Daniel Boffey
Chief reporter

US oil and gas multinationals are facing fresh questions over their trade with Russia after customs records revealed that more than $7.1m (£5.7m) worth of equipment manufactured by Halliburton has been exported into the country since the company announced the end of its Russian operations.

Last September Halliburton, one of the world's largest providers of products and services for oil and gas exploration, sold its Russian office to local management amid pressure on all US companies to cease trade there after the invasion of Ukraine.

> *'The US can have a conversation with Halliburton on its distribution process'*
>
> **Glib Kanevskyi**
> *StateWatch thinktank*

Russian customs records seen by the Guardian show that despite this move to sell up on 8 September, Halliburton subsidiaries exported equipment of a value of $5.7m to its former operation in Russia in the six weeks that followed the sale.

The equipment was largely shipped from the US and Singapore, though the records show it originated in a range of countries including the UK, Belgium and France.

The bulk of exports from the subsidiaries ended on 6 October, but the last shipment to Russia from a Halliburton company, recorded as Halliburton MFG in the records, was of a sealing element priced at $2,939.40 on 24 October 2022 from Malaysia to a firm called Sakhalin Energy, a consortium that is developing the Sakhalin-2 oil and gas project in far eastern Russian. Its investors include Gazprom.

After a short pause, imports of Halliburton equipment to Russia then resumed in December 2022 from two companies unrelated to the US multinational.

The products were imported from Turkey, bringing the total value of exports of Halliburton equipment to Russia since the company closed its operations to at least $7.1m.



▲ *Ukrainian soldiers standing on an oil and gas rig in the Black Sea that was retaken from Russia last week*
PHOTOGRAPH: @DIUKRAINE/TELEGRAM/AFP

Of all the exports to Russia made since last September, 98% were supplied to Halliburton's newly independent former operation known as BurService, whose clients have included Gazprom, Rosneft, TNK-BP and Lukoil.

According to customs records, exports to Russia of Halliburton equipment, which ranged from pumps to wrenches and cement additives, continued until at least the end of June. More recent records are yet to be made available.

The findings illustrate the difficulties multinational companies have had in unpicking their trading relationships and in controlling the distribution of their products via third parties.

Some of the world's largest US oil and gasfield service companies are already facing questions over their conduct. The Kremlin is heavily dependent on its oil and gas sector for the revenue that funds its military.

This month, the chair of the US Senate foreign relations committee, Bob Menendez, wrote to Halliburton and its competitors SLB and Baker Hughes amid reports the companies had continued to trade with Russia to various degrees after the invasion of Ukraine.

Menendez, in letters to the chief executives of the three companies, said he was "extremely disturbed" by an Associated Press report that sales had continued in 2022. He accused the management of seeking to "make a profit" rather stand in solidarity with Ukraine.

Baker Hughes sold its oilfield services business in Russia nine months after the invasion. SLB, which reportedly had 9,000 employees working in Russia, only announced in July that it would stop exporting technology to Russia.

There is no suggestion that any of the companies breached the sanctions imposed on Russia by the US or its western partners.

It is understood the sale date of Halliburton's operations in Russia was not fixed until late in the day, which may account for those shipments from its subsidiaries that left for the country shortly before and soon after 8 September.

A spokesperson for Halliburton said: "Halliburton was the first major oilfield services company to exit Russia, in full compliance with sanctions. It has been more than a year since we have conducted operations there.

"Halliburton wound down its Russia operations and completed the sale of its Russia business in less than six months while prioritising safety and securing the necessary government approvals, including for shipments to Russia. Halliburton no longer conducts operations in Russia."

Halliburton posted a gross profit for the 12 months to 30 June of more than $4bn, a 63.19% increase year-on-year despite writing off $300m on the sale of the Russian operation.

Glib Kanevskyi, the chief executive of the Kyiv-based thinktank StateWatch, said western governments needed to do more to persuade large companies to better control the distribution of products that could be useful to the Russian economy.

He added that companies such as Halliburton should be encouraged to be transparent about how they were ensuring their products were being kept out of the Russian market.

Kanevskyi said: "The US government can have a conversation with it and see how it can better control its distribution process."

Warlord uses Derna flood relief 'to exert control'

Ruth Michaelson

As search and rescue teams hunt for bodies in the mud and rubble of the Libyan coastal city of Derna, observers say the warlord Khalifa Haftar and his sons are using the disaster response to exert control rather than ensure vital aid reaches civilians.

At least 11,300 people have died and more than 10,000 are missing, according to the Libyan Red Crescent, after two dams burst during a powerful storm last week.

Floods destroyed almost 900 buildings in Derna, according to the country's National Unity government, based in the north-western city of Tripoli. More than 200 buildings were partly damaged and almost 400 others submerged in mud, it added, meaning that a quarter of all buildings in Derna had been affected.



Rescue teams assist in relief work in Derna yesterday. Public access is shut off to the centre of the city, which has been declared a disaster zone
PHOTOGRAPH: KARIM SAHIB/AFP/GETTY

Desperate efforts continued to find any remaining survivors as bodies continued to wash up on the shoreline. First responders often worked while surrounded by militants from the Libyan National Army, a sprawling coalition loyal to Haftar.

Public access to Derna's centre has been shut off and the city declared a disaster zone. Residents are struggling to survive without electricity, safe drinking water or food. Late last week, the head of Libya's parliament based in the east, Osama Hamad, said the authorities were considering sealing off the entire city, which once housed 100,000 people, fearing water-borne diseases.

"Essentially there is a military presence that is creating bottlenecks rather than being conducive to the provision of relief," said Emadeddin Badi, an analyst on Libya with the Atlantic Council. "The main thrust of relief efforts was not facilitated by the military leadership, which had a vested interest in appearing in control while skirting responsibility and victim-blaming, but instead by volunteers, medical teams, Red Crescent, boy scouts and foreign search and rescue teams."

Haftar, who has campaigned to control much of eastern Libya since 2014, toured Derna on Friday. He praised first responders as well as the LNA, a coalition of militias overseen by the ageing former CIA asset.

"Haftar's visit was a microcosm of this issue, everything was frozen for an hour for a PR stunt," said Badi.

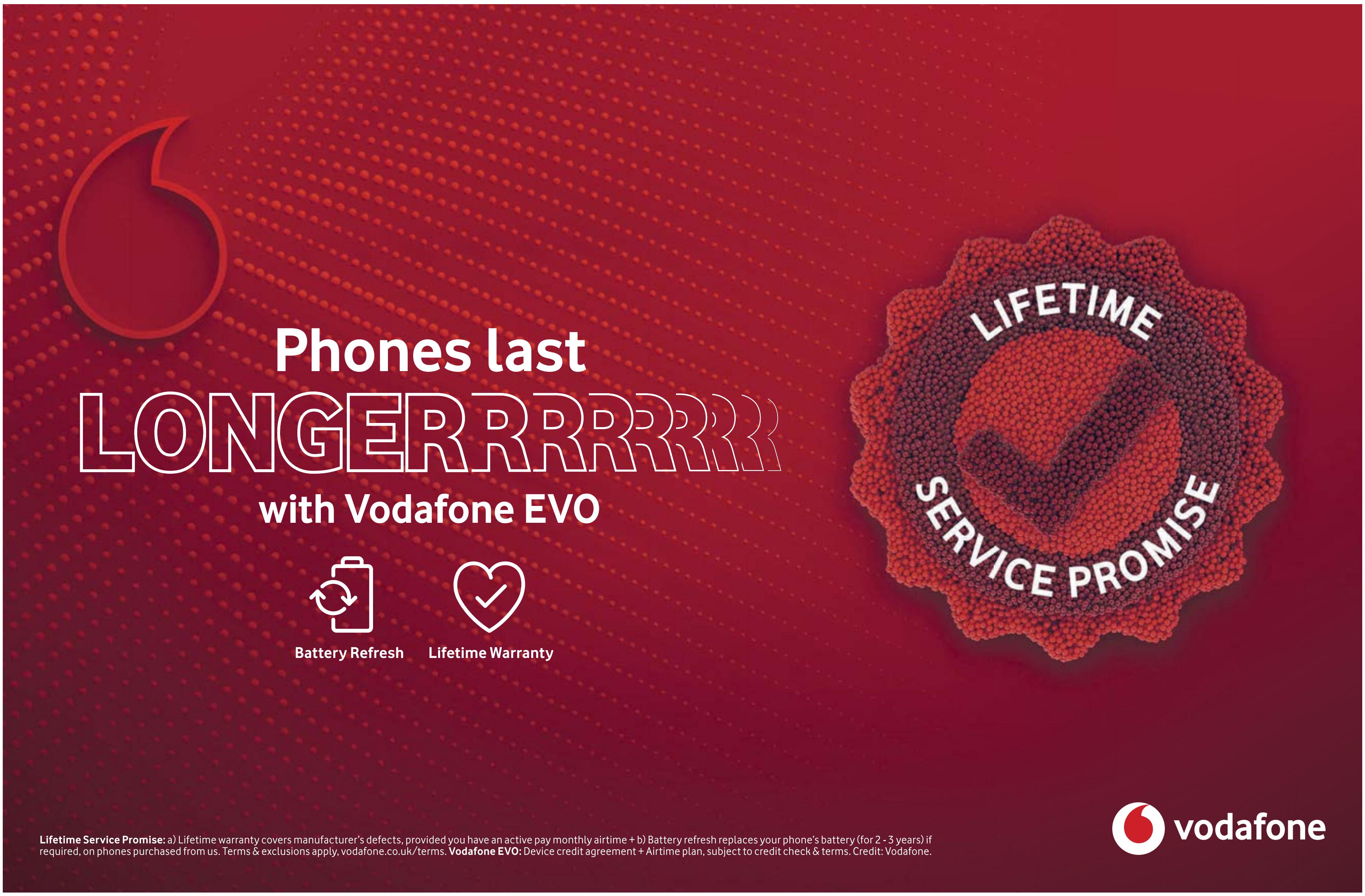
Haftar's sons, each of whom has their own financial and military interests, sought control over the disaster response. On the day that disaster struck Derna, the eldest son, Elseddik Haftar, declared his interest in running for president of Libya.

Observers said 32-year-old Saddam Haftar, often seen as the likely heir despite his brothers' efforts, used his role as head of Libya's disaster response committee to keep a grip on aid. Saddam heads the Tariq Ben Zayed brigades, a militia accused by Amnesty International of "inflicting a catalogue of horrors, including unlawful killings, torture and other ill-treatment, enforced disappearance, rape and other sexual violence, and forced displacement".

Jalel Harchaoui, a specialist on Libya at the Royal United Services Institute, said: "Everything is concentrated in the hands of the Haftar family. I wish I could tell you that there are other power centres in eastern Libya, but there's no such thing."

Libya's prosecutor general, al-Sediq al-Sour, has promised to investigate the collapse of both dams, as well as the allocation of millions of dollars intended to maintain the structures. But he also met Saddam.

"Saddam is positioning himself as the boss," said Harchaoui. "Slowly things are orienting towards one conclusion, which is that only mid-level officials can be blamed."



Eyewitness





Light work
More than 50,000 spectators watched India's display during the World Fireworks Championships in Blackpool on Saturday evening. The other finalists, Switzerland and Italy, hold their shows on 30 September and 20 October respectively.

PHOTOGRAPH: GREGG WOLSTENHOLME/BAV

Biden to finally sit down with Netanyahu at UN despite unease over policy

Bethan McKernan *Jerusalem*
Julian Borger *Washington*

Nine months after returning to office, Israel's prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, is finally getting his long-sought-after meeting with Joe Biden – but an awkward rapprochement at the UN general assembly is unlikely to improve the strained relationship between the two leaders.

The US president is scheduled to meet Netanyahu in New York on Wednesday, according to the White House. The US national security adviser, Jake Sullivan, said the two leaders would "discuss a range of bilateral and regional issues focused on the shared democratic values between the United States and Israel and a vision for a more stable and prosperous and integrated region, as well as compare notes on effectively countering and deterring Iran".

Sullivan's reference to shared democratic values was a reference to deep unease in Biden's White House about the judicial changes being pushed by Netanyahu's hardline coalition partners, which it sees as an assault on the judiciary's independence.

The proposals have been greeted by the largest protest movement in Israeli history, including unprecedented declarations from thousands of military reservists that they wished to be released from service.

That has been the primary factor in Biden's refusal to meet Netanyahu so far during the Israeli's current term, and the principal reason there will not be the meeting in the White House that Netanyahu sought.



▲ *Benjamin Netanyahu and Joe Biden. Israel's prime minister has not been invited to the White House*

Biden's administration has also expressed frustration with accelerating Israeli settlement growth in the occupied West Bank, which the international community considers a major obstacle to peace with the Palestinians and a two-state solution to the decades-old conflict.

The announcement came amid calls from Israeli artists and intellectuals, including the well-known writer David Grossman and the painter Tamar Getter, for the US president to shun a sit-down with Netanyahu altogether.

"From the outset of establishing his extreme rightwing government, Netanyahu's coalition has worked tirelessly to weaken the supreme court, neutralise the media and destroy the few checks and balances safeguarding the health of our nation," an open letter published last week and signed by 3,500 Israeli academics and public figures read.

"Netanyahu incites citizens against each other, threatens the country's security and economy, and turns his face away from the historical conflict that tears Israel apart – the forceful domination of the Palestinian people."

The Israeli leader announced earlier this month that he would visit the US, Israel's staunchest ally, which donates billions in military aid to the country each year. Initially, however, no meetings with US officials were announced. Netanyahu, who grew up between Jerusalem and Philadelphia, frequently boasts of his close connection to the US to bolster his platform both at home and abroad.

Biden said earlier this year that he had no intention of sitting down with Netanyahu "in the near term", before his office said in July that a meeting had been agreed.

Netanyahu's office was quick to announce that he had been invited to meet the president in the US, but the Biden administration pointedly declined to call it an invitation and did not specify where the leaders would meet.

The snub was emphasised when Biden welcomed Israel's figurehead president, Isaac Herzog, to the White House in July.

According to the Axios news site, the issue of a Netanyahu invitation split Biden's advisers, ultimately leading to a compromise of the meeting on the sidelines of the UN general assembly. A meeting in the White House, it was argued, would signal approval and reward for Israeli government policy.

There is no personal bond between Biden and Netanyahu, who have known each other for decades, although the US president often describes himself as a "true friend of Israel".



Trump avoids questions about what he was doing during Capitol attack

Edward Helmore
New York

The former president Donald Trump repeatedly declined in an interview yesterday to answer questions about whether he had watched the Capitol riot unfold on television.

Trump, the frontrunner for the 2024 Republican presidential nomination, refused to say on NBC's Meet the Press how he had spent 6 January 2021 once the insurrection began, and whether he had made phone calls as his supporters stormed the seat of US democracy.

"I'm not going to tell you. I'll tell people later at an appropriate time," Trump said. He grappled with a wide range of contentious issues, including his thoughts on democratic principles, abortion rights and ageing politicians.

He also confirmed his interest in choosing the South Dakota governor, Kristi Noem, to be his vice-presidential running mate if he wins the Republican nomination.

Trump said Republicans "speak very inarticulately" about abortion and criticised those who pushed for abortion bans without exceptions in the cases of rape, incest and the health of the mother.

"Other than certain parts of the country, you can't – you're not going to win on this issue," he said. "But you will win on this issue when you come up with the right number of weeks."

He predicted that both sides would ultimately come together on the issue. "And for the first time in 52 years, you'll have an issue that we can put behind us," he said.

Trump faces more than 90 pending criminal charges across four separate indictments, including for subversion of the 2020 election that he lost to Joe Biden. He said he was "all for" a presidency competency test, but the 77-year-old expressed his opposition to age limits.

He alluded to taking a mental competency test two or three years ago and boasted that he "aced it".

"I get everything right," Trump said during the interview conducted at his Bedminster, New Jersey, golf retreat. "I'm all for testing. I frankly think testing would be a good thing."

In 2020, it was revealed that some of the early questions in that test had involved Trump identifying an elephant and counting down from 100.

Asked if it was time for a new generation of US leadership, Trump said "it's always time for a new generation". But he qualified his answer: "Some of the greatest world leaders have been in their 80s."

Those remarks from Trump came after the retiring Republican US senator Mitt Romney of Utah called for a "new generation of leaders".

"I don't think Biden's too old," Trump said on the NBC show. "But I think he's incompetent, and that's a bigger problem. It's really a level of competency, not the age."

> *'I'm not going to tell you. I'll tell people later at an appropriate time'*
>
> **Donald Trump**
> *Former US president*

Trump said he "liked the concept" of having a woman as his running mate if he won the Republican nomination, adding that he had his eye on Noem. "I think she's fantastic," he said. "She's been a great governor. She gave me a very full-throated endorsement, a beautiful endorsement actually."

Noem recently confirmed that she was a candidate. "Of course, I would consider it," she told Fox News. But that was before she was splashed across the press for allegedly having an affair with the former Trump aide Corey Lewandowski.

The Daily Mail's reporting has not been denied, though Noem's spokesperson said it was "so predictable" that she would be attacked soon after she had endorsed Trump for the Republican nomination.

Trump was asked if he still believed democracy was the most effective form of government. "I do – but it has to be a democracy that's fair," he said. "This democracy – I don't consider us to have much of a democracy right now."



Drumming up support
A rally in New York yesterday calling for an end to the use of fossil fuels. The city is due to host a United Nations climate ambition summit on Wednesday.

PHOTOGRAPH: LEONARDO MUÑOZ/ AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Rock and Roll Hall of Fame ousts founder for incendiary comments

Associated Press

Jann Wenner, who co-founded both Rolling Stone magazine and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, has been removed from the hall's board of directors after making comments that were seen as denigrating Black and female musicians.

The organisation announced the decision on Saturday, a day after Wenner's comments were published in a New York Times interview.

A representative of Wenner, 77, did not respond to a request for comment.

The controversy stemmed from an interview Wenner had done while publicising his new book, The Masters, which features interviews with the musicians Bob Dylan, Jerry Garcia, Mick Jagger, John Lennon, Bruce Springsteen, Pete Townshend and U2's Bono – all white and male.

Asked why he had not interviewed women or Black musicians, Wenner said: "It's not that they're inarticulate, although, go have a deep conversation with Grace Slick or Janis Joplin. Please, be my guest. You know, Joni [Mitchell] was not a philosopher of rock'n'roll," he told the New York Times.

"Of Black artists – you know, Stevie Wonder, genius, right? I suppose when you use a word as broad as 'masters', the fault is using that word. Maybe Marvin Gaye, or Curtis Mayfield? I mean, they just didn't articulate at that level," Wenner said.

Wenner founded Rolling Stone in 1967 and served as its editor or editorial director until 2019. He co-founded the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. In the interview, Wenner seemed to acknowledge he would face a backlash. "Just for public relations' sake, maybe I should have gone and found one Black and one woman artist to include here that didn't measure up to that same historical standard, just to avert this kind of criticism."

Last year, Rolling Stone published its 500 greatest albums of all time and ranked Gaye's What's Going On at No 1, Blue by Mitchell at No 3, Wonder's Songs in the Key of Life at No 4, Purple Rain by Prince and the Revolution at No 8 and Lauryn Hill's The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill at No 10.


Wenner speaking in New York last year

US congresswoman issues apology for making a show of herself at Denver theatre

Gloria Oladipo

Lauren Boebert, the US congresswoman, has apologised after being thrown out of a performance of the musical Beetlejuice in Denver for inappropriate behaviour, an experience she called "difficult and humbling".

Boebert, a Republican representative for Colorado, and a male guest accompanying her, were ejected from the musical on 10 September for vaping, recording video and disturbing other patrons. Video also showed them groping each other in their seats.

Boebert initially denied she was vaping and said she was removed for being too loud. But surveillance video obtained by the Denver television station 9News shows the congresswoman openly vaping during the performance. A pregnant woman reportedly confronted Boebert and asked the congresswoman to stop vaping, the New York Post reported. Boebert refused.


▲ *Lauren Boebert called the experience 'difficult and humbling'*

"These people in front of us were outrageous," the unnamed woman said to the Post. "I've never seen anyone act like that before."

The CCTV video also shows Boebert's guest fondling her breasts after they had taken their seats. Boebert is also seen touching her guest's crotch in the venue.

Boebert and her date were removed by security in the second act of the musical as their disruptive behaviour continued. CCTV footage shows a blurred-out gesture that Boebert flashed at theatre security as she was escorted out. Business Insider reported that the gesture appeared to be a middle finger.

According to a report of the confrontation from theatre security, Boebert and her guest became argumentative with officials. "Do you know who I am?" the congresswoman allegedly asked.

Boebert apologised for her behaviour in a Friday evening statement.

"The past few days have been difficult and humbling, and I'm truly sorry for the unwanted attention my Sunday evening in Denver has brought to the community," she said.

Boebert added that her "public and difficult divorce" had created a "challenging personal time for me and my entire family". In May, Boebert filed for divorce from her husband, Jayson, after a long marriage.

Boebert's disturbance at the musical was first confirmed on Tuesday, though the congresswoman initially attempted to suggest she had been removed from the theatre for enjoying the performance too much.

On X, formerly known as Twitter, Boebert wrote that she "[pleaded] guilty to laughing and singing too loud!"

The congresswoman is one of the most far-right representatives in Congress, widely known for statements she has made against LGBTQ+ people, Muslims and other marginalised communities.

Thousands rally for Indigenous Australians to win recognition

Henry Belot *Melbourne*
Daniel Hurst

Tens of thousands of people have marched in cities across Australia in support of a yes vote in next month's referendum that would formally recognise Indigenous people in the country's constitution.

Linda Burney, the minister for Indigenous Australians, said she was "almost crying" at the "truly overwhelming" turnout in Melbourne and other cities yesterday in support of the "voice to parliament" proposal, adding: "For 65,000 years, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have been speaking 363 languages, but no voice. In 27 days, you have the power to do something about it."

Australians will vote in a referendum on 14 October on whether to recognise the First Peoples of Australia in the constitution by establishing an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice, also known as the Indigenous Voice to parliament or simply the Voice, a federal advisory body that would represent the views of Indigenous communities.

Indigenous Australians, who account for 3.8% of the population, face disadvantages including discrimination, poor health and education outcomes, and high rates of incarceration.

But a poll last week suggested the yes vote for the Voice is struggling – the fifth monthly survey in a row to find voters against the change.



▶ *Campaigners taking part in the march in Melbourne*
PHOTOGRAPH: SYDNEY LOW/ ZUMA/ SHUTTERSTOCK

Organisers believe 60,000 people marched from the State Liberty Victoria in Melbourne to Federation Square for speeches and performances, though Victoria police said it was closer to 30,000. Some sung You're the Voice, a 1986 single lent to the campaign by the singer John Farnham.

The Midnight Oil frontman and former Labor environment minister, Peter Garrett, who performed at the event, described the referendum as one of the nation's most consequential moments and urged people to discuss the referendum with family and friends who remain undecided.

"Countries only get to make decisions like this once in a lifetime," Garrett said.

In Canberra, several thousand people walked to the lawns in front of Parliament House, where they heard speeches saying that the referendum would "define who we are as a nation". Some of the handmade signs included "If you don't know, find out" – an implicit rebuttal to the no camp slogan "If you don't know, vote no". Another supporter held a sign saying "Ditch the fear" – a twist on an infamous "Ditch the witch" placard held up at an anti-carbon tax rally in the same location 12 years ago.

Dot, a Canberra resident, said after attending the rally that she had a message for undecided voters: "What have we got to lose? We have 65,000 years of shared history to gain."

David Pocock, the independent ACT senator and voice supporter, said: "It's an opportunity to unite Australia, to accept the generous offer of recognition and a voice."

Burney told the Melbourne rally that 20,000 people had attended the march in Brisbane, where yes campaigners held signs saying: "Maintain the love" and "Stop the Trumps, vote yes".

Thousands also met in Sydney's Redfern Park to hear from campaigners and performers, where the crowd sung happy birthday to the New South Wales premier, Chris Minns, as he took the stage.

Hundreds of Australians based in New York walked across Brooklyn Bridge carrying signs including one saying "History has its eyes on US".

The organisers of the New York walk said: "It's easy to feel disconnected when we are all living far away from home. But we can, and will, play a role in this referendum."



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World
Shipping



▲ *Smoke rises from the stricken Pablo after a gas explosion on 1 May which killed crew members* PHOTOGRAPH: MALAYSIAN MARITIME ENFORCEMENT AGENCY/REUTERS

Oil How a burnt-out tanker reveals secrets of sanction busters

Jonathan Yerushalmy
Haylena Krishnamoorthy

Early in the afternoon of 1 May, Oleksandr Lepyoshkin entered his cabin to find it filled with smoke. Seconds later the glass exploded from his windows as the ship was rocked by several blasts and a huge fire began to overrun the vessel.

The explosion on board the oil tanker, known as the Pablo, immediately caught the attention of other vessels anchored at the busy entry point to the Malacca Strait, as plumes of black smoke filled the sky around the stricken vessel. When it became clear the blaze could not be controlled, the Pablo's crew jumped from the deck into the sea.

As the Malaysian maritime department began its rescue mission, the scale of the accident quickly became clear. A build-up of gas inside the tanker's empty hold had caused an explosion strong enough to rip off almost the entire top deck. Luckily, the tanker was empty, having made a delivery to China, but of the 28 crew on board, three were missing.

Now, more than four months after the incident, the wreckage of the Pablo still sits at anchor off the coast of Malaysia untouched. However, despite the scale of the catastrophe, maritime experts agree the incident was a lucky escape for a sector of the shipping industry that is increasingly living on borrowed time.

The Pablo was part of a growing fleet of "shadow tankers", transporting sanctioned oil with little regard for industry regulations. Hidden behind shell companies, shadow vessels are characterised by their repeated change of flag carriers and owners, and often operate without insurance. When a ship is abandoned beyond repair, the insurer becomes its owner and takes responsibility for its scrapping. Without a listed insurer, the Pablo remains where it is.

Experts warn that such ships pose a serious threat to the environment. But the shadow trade of ships like the Pablo is only growing in size and scale - taking voyages that thread their way through the world's geopolitical hotspots: from the oilfields of Iran, to the factories of China, all the way to the frontline of Russia's war against Ukraine.

Five years ago the Pablo was due to be sold as scrap. At 21 years old, it was well past the age at which most oil tankers would be retired. Then known as Olympic Spirit II, its demolition was cancelled owing to a surge in demand for older, cheaper tankers.

In 2018 Donald Trump pulled the US out of the Iran nuclear deal, under which Tehran had curbed its nuclear activities in return for the lifting of sanctions. As the US reimposed sanctions, Iran's oil sales were throttled. With that trade under threat, a fleet of shadow vessels - willing to defy international sanctions - stepped in to ship millions of barrels of oil around the world.

Since then the shadow fleet has only grown bigger. In December 2022, the G7, EU and Australia agreed to a price cap on Russian oil in response to its invasion of Ukraine. Under the terms of the deal, insurers are prohibited from covering vessels that sell oil above the maximum price set by those western powers. In its 2023 shipping safety review, the insurer Allianz noted that the growing list of sanctions against Russia meant the number of shadow tankers could be "more than 600".

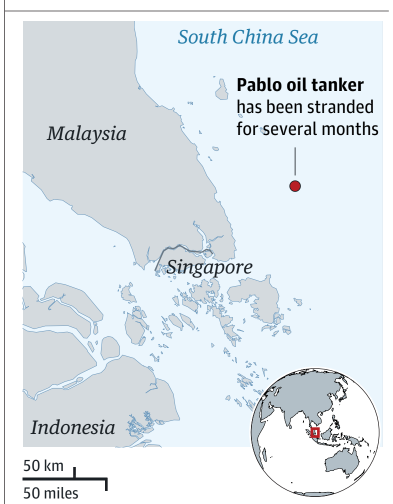
▼ *Cargo ships at the entrance to the Malacca Strait, where sanctioned oil is transferred from ship to ship* PHOTOGRAPH: EDGAR SU/REUTERS







▲ *The Pablo's crew jump into the sea, where they were picked up by Malaysian authorities, left. The wrecked tanker is said to have been used to transport Iranian oil* PHOTOGRAPH: MALAYSIAN MARITIME ENFORCEMENT AGENCY/REUTERS



"Vessels are more likely to be older ships … with lower maintenance standards. Reports indicate there were at least eight groundings, collisions or near misses involving tankers carrying sanctioned oil products in 2022," says Justus Heinrich, from Allianz Global Corporate & Specialty.

According to Claire Jungman, the chief of staff for the US watchdog group United Against Nuclear Iran (UANI), the Pablo was one such vessel that posed a threat. "It was one of our repeat offenders. We have a list of 50 tankers that routinely shuttle Iranian oil and Pablo was one of them," she says.

In June 2021, the Pablo was known as Adisa, and was sailing under the flag of Cameroon. After UANI informed Cameroon of the ship's activity, that flag was withdrawn. Just a few months later it was sailing under a new name - Helios - with a new flag, the Cook Islands. But after UANI provided evidence of sanctioned trades, that flag was also withdrawn.

By 2022 it was known as the Mockingbird and registered to Tanzania, which also withdrew its flag after being contacted by UANI.

On 4 April, UANI contacted the Gabonese authorities, which had registered the ship under the name of the Pablo. While promising to continue to monitor the vessel, the country's department of maritime affairs also said it had taken a letter of understanding from the ship's owners that it would comply with all US, UN and EU sanctions.

However, the fact the Pablo was sailing under the flag of Gabon alarmed Jan Stockbruegger, a maritime security expert from Copenhagen University. "If you want to wait for Gabon to do something you'll wait a long time. They are not known to be a flag state that takes responsibility for the vessels they're flagging."

Using satellite imagery, UANI estimated that, thanks to the shadow fleet, Iranian oil exports hit a five-year high last month.

In recent years, south-east Asia has emerged as a hub for this sanctioned oil. Tankers with oil from Iran, Russia or Venezuela will meet vessels near the region's busy shipping lanes and perform dangerous ship-to-ship-transfers. The oil in the new vessel will be rebadged as coming from a legitimate source and sent to be sold.

As of now, the Pablo remains abandoned. "Our satellite images shows it's just a burnt ship sitting off the coast of Malaysia," says Jungman. After the explosion on 1 May, Malaysia's maritime department began a rescue mission that eventually led to the Pablo being boarded and searched. Despite the initial optimism, none of the three crew were ever found.

Business

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Key Biden adviser urges global spending boost for green tech

Richard Partington
Economics correspondent

Governments around the world must drastically increase public investment in green technologies to combat global heating and drive sustainable economic growth, a top adviser to Joe Biden has said.

Heather Boushey, a member of the White House council of economic advisers, said countries including the UK needed to ramp up green investment to reboot economic growth, boost energy security and protect against inflation shocks.

Speaking to the Guardian, she said the Biden administration's decision to plough billions of dollars of public money into infrastructure and renewables was "crowding in" private investment - helping to put the US economy in a stronger position.

"We're working with our friends and allies to incentivise them to do the same - because we all need to make these investments," she said.

"Billions of dollars of investment all around the country - private dollars, in semiconductors and clean energy - has been incentivised by this public spend."

Her comments came on a tour of European countries including the UK that included meetings with Ed Miliband, the shadow net zero secretary - underscoring the ties between Labour and the Democrats before pivotal elections for both next year.

The White House is investing $369bn (£289bn) in clean energy and low-carbon technologies through Biden's landmark Inflation Reduction Act, with the aim of tackling global heating and laying the groundwork for greener economic growth.

Labour had promised to borrow to invest £28bn a year to invest in green jobs and industry if elected, but retreated from the pledge this summer by saying it would "ramp up" to this figure in 2027 in an attempt to prove fiscal credibility.

Boushey said that while it was important to show investments were "paid for", there was a strong case for green spending because it could pave the way for more resilient economic growth in future - helping to bolster the public finances.

"The president has not increased the deficit over his tenure. And he's actually lowered the deficit because we got the economy back on track so quickly. So tax revenue started coming in, and growth came back," she said. In a riposte to critics of higher government spending to meet net zero, Boushey warned that failure to take "bold action" risked nations falling behind in a global race to decarbonise. "It's an enormous economic opportunity. And if we don't do it, we'll end up importing these products from abroad."

A key architect of "Bidenomics" as one of the president's closest advisers, the economist said investing public money was helping to create jobs while building US domestic capacity to produce clean, reliable energy. Doing so could protect against future inflation shocks by limiting exposure to volatile fossil fuel prices and fragile international supply chains.

"As we've seen with the war in Ukraine, access to energy is everything. If you don't have energy you can't power your factories, you can't keep your homes warm, you can't keep the lights running," she said.

"Building the green energy economy will be able to deliver lower prices over time and less volatility."

Last Friday, the UK government agreed a £500m support package for Tata Steel to help its Port Talbot steelworks switch to greener forms of steelmaking using electricity rather than coal.

But the chancellor, Jeremy Hunt, insisted Britain was not about to adopt Biden's economic approach. "We are very clear - we won't pursue the Inflation Reduction Act subsidy bowl approach to economic policy," Hunt told the Financial Times.



▶ *The Biden administration is investing $369bn in clean energy and low-carbon tech with the aim of boosting growth*
PHOTOGRAPH: KEHAN CHEN/GETTY IMAGES

'Billions of dollars of private investment has been incentivised by Biden's public spend'
Heather Boushey



CBI 'needs £3m from members within days' to keep operating

Rob Davies

The Confederation of British Industry (CBI) risks financial oblivion unless it can convince remaining members to stump up £3m within days, according to reports.

It follows an exodus of members triggered by revelations in the Guardian about sexual misconduct - including two alleged rapes.

Despite a management clearout, an internal investigation and a pledge to overhaul its culture, the CBI's reputational crisis has snowballed into a financial one as membership fees provide most of its income.

The Sunday Times said the CBI had asked companies that remained members to help patch up its balance sheet while it continued merger discussions with MakeUK, the manufacturers' trade body.

The accounts are usually presented at the CBI's annual meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, increasing pressure on the organisation to show it can continue operating.

In a message to members before the meeting, the group promised to build a "renewed" CBI under the leadership of Rain Newton-Smith, who took over after the former director general Tony Danker was dismissed following separate allegations about his behaviour.

A spokesperson for the lobby group said: "The CBI has experienced some short-term cashflow challenges following an incredibly difficult year … A number of options are being explored to resolve this issue and secure the footing of an organisation that remains in a strong medium- to long-term position."

HSBC bank is trying to convince other CBI members to back the £3m cash call, the Sunday Times reported. The Guardian approached HSBC for comment.

As the CBI fights for survival, a potential successor is waiting in the wings. The business council of the British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) was launched in June - with the stated aim to "design and drive the future of the British economy" - just weeks after the CBI was plunged into crisis. It held its first meeting last week, chaired by the BCC's president, Martha Lane Fox.

Pub closures rise amid fears over increase in rates

Rob Davies

Pub closures rose sharply in the first half of this year, prompting warnings that planned business rate rises could lead to further closures.

A total of 383 pubs - more than two a day - shut in England and Wales in the first six months of 2023, compared with 386 for the whole of 2022, according to data from the commercial real estate analysts Altus Group.

The figures show pubs that have shut because they were demolished or converted into homes or offices.

The Federation of Small Businesses and one of Britain's leading pub groups joined Altus in warning the chancellor, Jeremy Hunt, that more closures could follow if he goes ahead with plans to scrap a business rates discount in March.

Chris Jowsey, the boss of the Admiral Taverns chain, said of the discount: "Without it, costs for many pubs will rise dramatically … fuelling inflation and forcing closure for many independents."

Pubs have received a 75% discount on business rates, capped at £110,000, since April. The cut is due to end in March, while headline business rates are due to rise in line with inflation the following month.

Alex Probyn of Altus said: "With energy costs up 80% year-on-year, in a low growth, high inflation and high interest rates environment, the last thing pubs need is an average business rates hike of £12,385."

Oil price nears $100 a barrel as Russia and Saudia Arabia cut production

Phillip Inman

Oil prices are on track to reach $100 a barrel this month for the first time in 2023 after surging by almost 30% since June, amid Russian and Saudi Arabian production cuts.

Brent crude, the oil price benchmark, rose to a 10-month high last week of almost $94 a barrel, up from $72 at its lowest point in June, heading for its biggest quarterly increase since Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Petrol and diesel prices in the UK have begun to rise modestly, adding 10p to the cost of a litre since June. The RAC said the average price of a litre of unleaded fuel was £1.52, up from £1.43 in June.

Earlier this month, Saudi Arabia extended its 1.3m barrels per day (bpd) cut in production to the end of the year. Cuts by Russia have also supported efforts by Opec countries to push prices towards $100 a barrel.

The International Energy Agency (IEA) said last week that the cuts would create a "significant supply shortfall" that posed a considerable threat to ongoing price volatility.

The IEA's monthly oil market report was released just a day after Opec announced the market was facing a deficit of more than 3m bpd in the coming quarter, potentially resulting in the most substantial shortage in more than a decade.

Saudia Arabia and its partners in Opec are also concerned that the IEA has predicted demand for oil will peak before 2030, which some analysts believe could be brought forward to 2026 by the rapid switch to renewables already under way.

Stephen Innes, the managing partner at SPI asset management, said: "Oil's wicked ripper is showing few signs of abating just yet."

The rising cost of fuel and demand from China, which ranks as the world's biggest oil importer, are expected to cloud the outlook for central banks and their mission to bring down inflation rates that are still well above the 2% target level.

A drop in oil prices played a large role in the fall of inflation in the first half of this year but are now expected to act as a brake in the second half and into 2024.

"Betting on oil is becoming a favourite trade on Wall Street," said Edward Moya, an analyst at the online trading service OANDA. "No one is doubting the Opec [oil output] decision at the end of last month will keep the oil market very tight in the



Workers at an electronics factory in Linquan, Anhui province, in eastern China. Many factories have moved to countries with cheaper labour
PHOTOGRAPH: AP/CHINATOPIX

Cracks in China

Young people, wages and welfare suffer in struggling economy

Amy Hawkins
Senior China correspondent

When finding a job feels as unlikely as winning the lottery, playing the actual lottery may seem like a more productive use of time. In the first half of 2023, faced with a struggling economy, Chinese consumers spent 273.9bn yuan (£30bn) on lottery tickets, an increase of more than 50% on the same period in 2022.

It's just the latest symptom of an economy in distress. A record high youth unemployment rate of 21.3% in June prompted the government to stop publishing data on the issue, along with other areas such as the consumer confidence index.

Several factors have contributed to the unusually high youth unemployment rate. Education, real estate and technology - industries that graduates previously flocked to - have been hit by a regulatory storm in recent years that annihilated millions of jobs. And, during the pandemic, more students stayed in education while the jobs market was all but frozen, leading to a pent-up supply of recent graduates looking for work. But the bigger problems for the economy may be structural.

Most people in the youth unemployment cohort are not recent college graduates but school-leavers unable to get the service sector jobs that have previously kept China's cities buzzing. Millions of couriers, hospitality workers, security guards, and nannies are unemployed.

Educated, creative college graduates going without work is a problem for a "politically significant part of the workforce", says Eli Friedman, a professor who focuses on Chinese labour issues at Cornell University. But the fact that people are not finding even low-end jobs is the "big concern".

Since 2013, as factories have moved to countries with cheaper labour, the number of people employed in manufacturing has been in decline. That has led to an "era of polarisation", according to a study published by economists at Stanford and Wenzhou universities, in which wages have risen for high-skilled professionals, while the surplus of workers at the low-skilled end of the economy has driven down wages.

From 2004-19, the share of people working in China's cities in the informal sector - that part of the economy that is neither taxed nor picked up in government data - grew from 33% to about 60%.

As well as contributing to gaping inequality, this hampers China's ability to boost its productivity. "You don't turn yourself into a high-income country with [close to] 70% of your economy in the informal sector," says Scott Rozelle, an economist who led the wage polarisation study.

Another problem created by the explosion in China's informal sector is that it inhibits the ability of local governments to collect taxes. Personal income tax accounts for just 6% of China's total tax revenues, compared with 24% in OECD countries. Only a tiny fraction of the country's population pay any income tax at all. As a result, local governments are forced to rely on non-tax sources of revenue, such as land sales. From 2012-21 the share of local government revenues from land sales increased from 20% to 30%.

> *'You don't turn into a high-income country with 70% of your economy in the informal sector'*
>
> **Scott Rozelle**
> *Economist*

But in 2020 - armed with the mantra that "houses are for living in, not for speculation" - the government unleashed a wave of regulatory shocks to the real estate sector, prompting a record number of defaults and the worst slump in the housing market this century. Local governments saw land sale revenues fall by a quarter in 2022.

The slumping revenues exposed a problem that had been brewing for years. China's provincial governments have all but run out of money. Local government debt is estimated to total $23tn, and 22 municipalities are at medium or high risk of default, according to MacroPolo, a thinktank. The effects are already being felt across China.

In Hegang, a frosty coal-producing town near the Russian border, residents were left without heating, which is normally subsidised by the government, after the city made history by becoming the first to undergo fiscal restructuring in December 2021.

In February, the public bus operator in Shangqiu, a city of 7 million people in Henan province, said it was suspending services as it had run out of money. Beijing has encouraged local governments to slash welfare payments, prompting pensioner protests earlier this year.

With a rapidly ageing population and an already weak social safety net, it is a "peculiar time to be cutting entitlements", Houze Song, a MacroPolo fellow, noted.

British economy

One year on from Truss fiasco, we're still stuck

Richard Partington
Economics correspondent

Reversing managed decline was Liz Truss's message. Almost a year ago, the shortest-serving prime minister in UK history told the story of a nation wallowing in a low-growth mire.

This week marks the anniversary of her catastrophic attempt to change course with a mini-budget that crashed the pound, punished mortgage holders and destroyed her party's reputation for economic competence in one fell swoop.

A year on, the economy is still going nowhere fast. Thirteen years of Conservative government have had little positive impact. The economy has missed out on billions of pounds in growth, while average wages are still no higher today, after inflation, than in 2007. Even by the Tories' own yardsticks for success - sound public finances, low taxes and free enterprise - there is failure: the national debt is at the highest level since the 1960s, taxes as a share of the economy are higher than at any time since Clement Attlee's postwar Labour government and Brexit has tied businesses in red tape.

It won't always be popular to say, but Truss was right in saying Britain needed economic growth. Where she was badly wrong was in her prescription. Most economists reckoned the plans announced by her chancellor, Kwasi Kwarteng, would have had a minimal impact on growth while adding to the drivers of economic inequality. Not even the free markets bought her supposedly free market message.

In the aftermath of Truss's febrile 49 days in power, Rishi Sunak and his chancellor, Jeremy Hunt, smoothed over the chaos by reversing most of her agenda and restoring tighter budget settlements. Since then, though, their time in office has been squandered - focused not on doing things but on blocking them.

With inflation stubbornly high, some government borrowing costs are back above mini-budget levels. Rather than the brief aberration of sky-high mortgage costs for those unlucky enough to refinance during Truss's tenure, fixed mortgage rates of about 6% are again the average.

Revisions to the UK's economic performance since the Covid pandemic show the country is now in the middle of the pack for growth rather than an international outlier. Yet inflation remains higher than in many comparable nations.

The Bank of England is expected to raise interest rates this week for the 15th time in a row since December 2021, stomping yet harder on the economic brakes to tame inflation.

Underscoring its challenge, inflation figures on Wednesday are likely to show an increase in August driven by higher petrol prices - just as the economy runs into a brick wall of past rate rises.

Faced with this stagflationary environment, Bank of England policymakers are preparing to hold rates at restrictively high levels until they are convinced inflation will drop back to 2%. This will create a grim backdrop for the next election, stoking the chances of recession and maintaining pressure on businesses and households.

Even if two quarters of negative growth are avoided, the likelihood is the economy will remain stuck in first gear at best. The Bank forecasts an annual growth rate of just 0.5% for 2023, the same again in 2024 and growth of just 0.25% in 2025 - a tenth of the average rate in the decade leading up to the 2008 financial crisis.



▲ *Liz Truss, the then PM, with Kwasi Kwarteng, her chancellor, last year*

> ***Sunak remains reluctant to take bold action and is instead scrambling to identify cost savings***

Should the Bank stick to the plan of leaving interest rates high, attention will turn to the government for answers on how to reboot growth and raise living standards. However, after the mess of the Truss mini-budget politicians are unwilling to pull hard on the fiscal levers.

Sunak remains as reluctant as ever to take bold action and is instead scrambling to identify cost savings before November's autumn statement, as witnessed in his consideration of real-terms cuts to pensions and benefits and possible downgrading of the HS2 rail project. On his watch, the priority is budget constraints first, living standards second.

Labour, fearing a repeat of the 2019 election when voters rejected Jeremy Corbyn's spending plans, is taking a safety-first approach under Keir Starmer, betting the public want competence more than radical change.

But with the public realm crumbling, NHS waiting lists expanding, households still under pressure from the soaring cost of living and the economy flatlining, something has to give.



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Package	Newsstand price per month	Subscription rate	Saving
Every day	~~£93.60~~	£60.99	**34% off**
Six day	~~£77.13~~	£53.99	**30% off**
Weekend	~~£32.93~~	£24.99	**24% off**
Saturday	~~£16.47~~	£13.99	**15% off**
Sunday	~~£16.47~~	£13.99	**15% off**

Prices above are monthly. Savings calculated are savings made per month against the retail price.

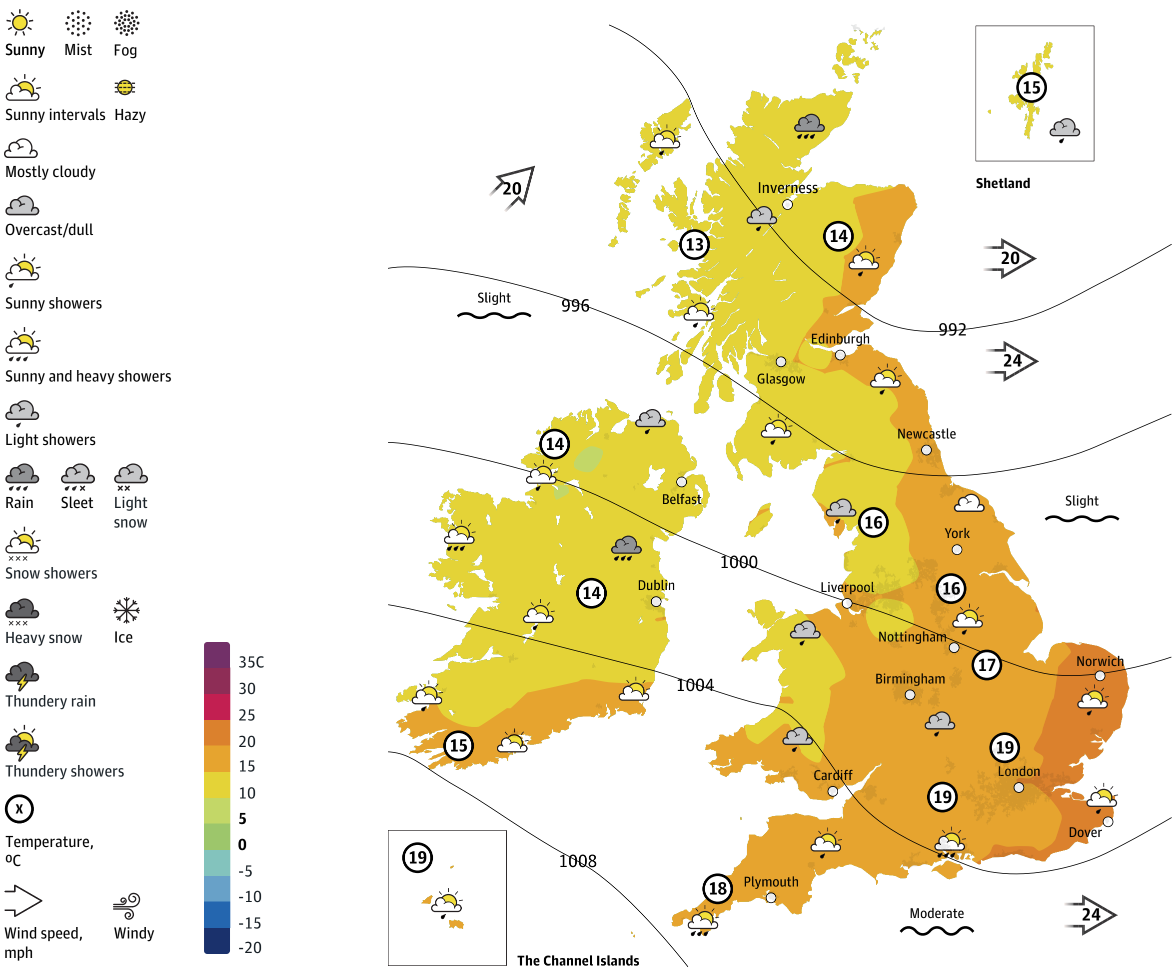
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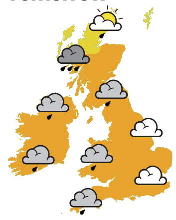
Weather
Monday 18 September 2023

UK and Ireland Noon today

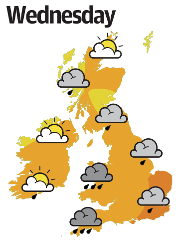


Forecast

Low 10 High 18
Tomorrow



Low 16 High 18
Wednesday



Carbon count

Daily atmospheric CO_2 readings from Mauna Loa, Hawaii (ppm):

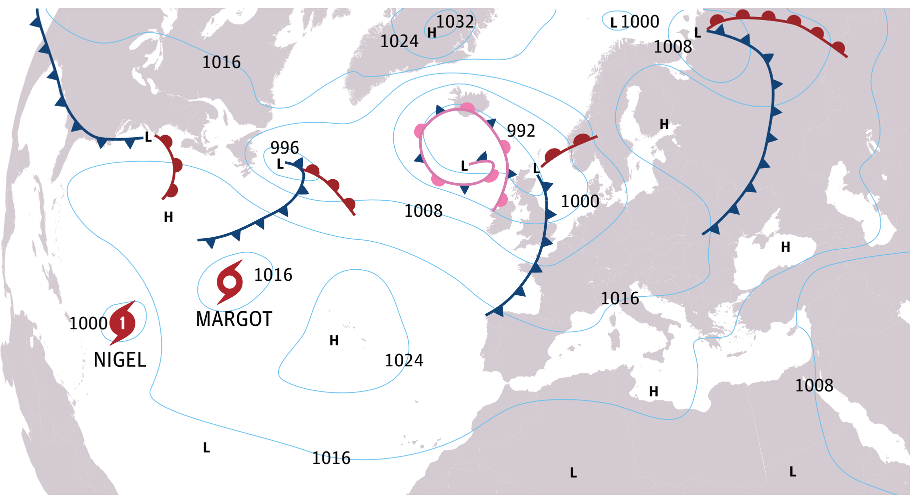
Latest	
13 Sep 2023	418.69
Weekly average	
10 Sep 2023	418.52
17 Sep 2022	416.15
17 Sep 2013	393.52
Pre-industrial base	280
Safe level	350

Source: NOAA-ESRL

Around the UK

	Lows and highs		Precipitation	Air pollution
London	12	19	25%	Low
Manchester	10	16	90%	Low
Edinburgh	9	16	90%	Low
Belfast	10	14	80%	Low
Birmingham	10	18	90%	Low
Brighton	13	20	85%	Low
Bristol	13	17	90%	Low
Cardiff	13	17	90%	Low
Newcastle	8	16	65%	Low
Penzance	15	18	65%	Low

Atlantic front

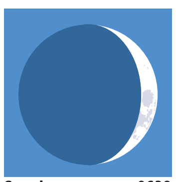


High tides

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Aberdeen	0346	4.3m	1610	4.1m
Avonmouth	0958	12.2m	2208	12.3m
Barrow	0144	8.9m	1405	8.8m
Belfast	0119	3.5m	1334	3.2m
Cobh	0759	3.9m	2012	3.9m
Cromer	0853	5.0m	2127	4.8m
Dover	0123	6.4m	1337	6.6m
Dublin	0149	4.0m	1411	3.8m
Galway	0753	4.8m	1958	4.8m
Greenock	0248	3.5m	1522	3.2m
Harwich	0217	3.8m	1423	3.8m
Holyhead	0040	5.5m	1259	5.3m
Hull	0850	7.3m	2116	7.2m
Leith	0510	5.4m	1731	5.3m
Liverpool	0128	9.1m	1346	8.9m
London Bridge	0426	6.8m	1641	6.9m
Lossiemouth	0217	4.1m	1439	3.8m
Milford Haven	0849	6.7m	2102	6.8m
Newquay	0740	6.7m	1953	6.8m
North Shields	0551	5.1m	1815	4.8m
Oban	0819	3.8m	2025	3.9m
Penzance	0713	5.3m	1926	5.4m
Plymouth	0833	5.2m	2041	5.2m
Portsmouth	0153	4.5m	1417	4.6m
Southport	0102	8.8m	1320	8.6m
Stornoway	0919	4.6m	2123	4.7m
Weymouth	0838	1.3m	2050	1.3m
Whitby	0628	5.5m	1852	5.3m
Wick	0144	3.5m	1405	3.3m
Workington	0151	8.1m	1410	7.9m

Sun & Moon



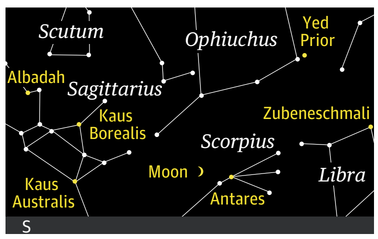
Sun rises	0639
Sun sets	1908
Moon rises	1018
Moon sets	2009
First Quarter	22 Sept

Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather** ©2023

Lighting up

Belfast	1935 to 0704
Birm'ham	1916 to 0647
Brighton	1909 to 0642
Bristol	1919 to 0652
Carlisle	1921 to 0650
Cork	1942 to 0715
Dublin	1934 to 0705
Glasgow	1928 to 0657
Harlech	1925 to 0657
Inverness	1928 to 0654
London	1908 to 0641
M'chester	1918 to 0649
Newcastle	1917 to 0646
Norwich	1904 to 0635
Penzance	1930 to 0703

Starwatch



Celebrate the equinox this week with the waxing crescent moon, low in the south-south-west, cruising past the red star Antares in Scorpius, the scorpion.

The chart shows the view from London at 8pm on 21 September. The moon will be approaching its first quarter (half-moon) phase with a 39% of its visible surface illuminated. When the moon is low against the horizon, its usually silvery glow will probably be transformed into a ruddier colour. This is because the blue component of its light is preferentially scattered out of our direct view by the molecules in the atmosphere. When the moon is close to the horizon, we must look through more of the atmosphere than when it is high above near the zenith and so the effect of losing the blue light is more pronounced.

Those same layers of atmosphere will make Antares appear to twinkle. **Stuart Clark**

Around the world

Algiers	31	Lisbon	23
Ams'dam	21	Madrid	22
Athens	27	Malaga	28
Auckland	18	Melb'rne	21
B Aires	17	Mexico C	26
Bangkok	33	Miami	32
Barcelona	27	Milan	25
Basra	43	Mombasa	31
Beijing	31	Moscow	17
Berlin	28	Mumbai	31
Bermuda	29	N Orleans	32
Brussels	22	Nairobi	27
Budapest	28	New Delhi	31
C'hagen	22	New York	20
Cairo	33	Oslo	15
Cape Town	18	Paris	23
Chicago	21	Perth	18
Corfu	31	Prague	27
Dakar	31	Reykjavik	13
Dhaka	31	Rio de J	30
Dublin	14	Rome	29
Florence	30	Shanghai	33
Gibraltar	26	Singapore	30
H Kong	31	Stockh'm	15
Harare	28	Strasb'g	25
Helsinki	15	Sydney	33
Istanbul	26	Tel Aviv	31
Jo'burg	22	Tenerife	28
K Lumpur	33	Tokyo	32
K'mandu	31	Toronto	20
Kabul	30	Vancouv'r	18
Kingston	33	Vienna	28
Kolkata	32	Warsaw	27
L Angeles	25	Wash'ton	25
Lagos	30	Well'ton	17
Lima	21	Zurich	20

Football
Chelsea draw a blank against Bournemouth
Page 39 →

Formula One
Sainz triumphs in Singapore to end Red Bull's run
Page 36 →



Sport



▲ *Dominating a physical encounter on the rugby pitch does not necessarily equate to gaining a psychological edge*
CHRISTOPHE SIMON/AFP/GETTY

Sudden impact

Does winning the physical fight really give a team the knockout punch?

Sean Ingle



There was a moment during Scotland's match against South Africa, as tempers frayed, that harked back to rugby union's bygone era. Damian de Allende pinned an elbow to Ben White's head. Darcy Graham and Cheslin Kolbe grabbed each other's necks. The big men came steaming in. And while what the Daily Record called a "furious World Cup rammy" soon fizzled out, it reflected a basic tenet of collision sports: win the physical battle, win the match.

Some players, though, believe this goes further still. And that when a fight breaks out on the pitch, winning it can change the momentum of a match. Perhaps even a series. In the second Test of the Lions' tour in 1989, Rob Jones stood on Nick Farr-Jones's foot while the Australian was putting the ball into the scrum, sparking a brawl that the Lions "won". Having lost 30-12 the first Test, they took the second 19-12 and - a week later - the decider 19-18. "From that moment on I genuinely believe that the Test series was won," the Lions star Finlay Calder said, when reminiscing over the match dubbed the Battle of Ballymore. "They just looked at us and thought: 'I don't fancy this lot.'" Farr-Jones agreed: "It's one of the biggest regrets of my career - that we didn't win the series - and it all started there."

Instinctively it makes sense, doesn't it? When a team "win" a fight, they will feel more dominant and aggressive. Perhaps their testosterone levels will rise - and they will then get a boost on the field of play, too. This is what experts call psychological momentum.

The ice hockey enforcer Rob Ray perhaps described it best: "Momentum is an amazing thing, and when your team has it, you are unstoppable. Your teammates are like a sponge when there is a fight. When you win, they absorb that confidence and emotion; and when you lose, they just sink down a notch or two."

To test whether winning a fight did help a team, Dr Nadav Goldschmied, an associate professor of psychology at the University of San Diego, and his colleague Michael Apostol trawled four seasons of National Hockey League data and found 1,200 matches that contained one brawl. They scrutinised three "momentum" hypotheses. First, what happens when a fight occurs when the match is tied? Second, what happened when a team went behind early in a game, and then won a fight? And third, if winning a fight in the first period then led to that team scoring next.

You might reasonably ask how the winners of every punch-up were judged. Here the academics were helped by the inestimable services of hockeyfights.com, an online community dedicated to the "appreciation, analysis, and discussion of hockey fights". And also by dropyourgloves.com, which collects objective NHL brawl data, including the number of punches which land from each fight, and even the number of "big" punches delivered.

After performing considerable mathematical wizardry, the results were published in Psychology of Sport & Exercise. And they were unequivocal. "The results contradicted our hypothesis that doing well in a fight when the score was tied or behind would catapult the team to victory," the authors wrote. And, of the 299 dust-ups they studied that took place in the first period, "fight performance once again did not predict a momentum boost".

Yet the idea of psychological momentum in physical sports is not entirely KO'd. Another detailed study has found that in judo there is indeed evidence that momentum comes from winning a contest, based on a study of all international bronze medal matches between 2009 and 2013. Such fights are unique as they involve one judoka who lost in the semi-finals, having won their quarter-final. And another, who lost in the quarter-finals, but who then won their repechage contest. Generally, the semi-final loser is considered the superior performer, because their loss occurred at a later stage of the competition. Yet the academics found the judokas who had won their repechage emerged victorious in 69% of the bronze medal fights, thus - they argued - showing the benefits of psychological momentum.

> *These results applied only to men, an effect believed to be down to testosterone levels*

There was, however, a significant kicker. These results applied only to men, which the academics believe is down to the effect of testosterone levels on performance. As they write: "The literature has convincingly shown that while higher testosterone levels enhance performance of both men and women, it commonly increases following victory and decreases following loss only among men."

So why is there such a difference between ice hockey and judo? Possibly because in a team sport the impact of one brawl will never stimulate every player in quite the way winning a judo contest might. Meanwhile Goldschmied noted that despite the emphatic findings in his research, a "vigorous and persistent belief" that winning a fight swings momentum lingers - with NHL enforcers keen to promote such a narrative, as it preserves their special status.

Yet, as he acknowledges, there is a more compelling explanation. As humans we are drawn to cause-and-effect relationships. We also desire plausible reasons for how matches are won and lost. We play detective. We reverse-engineer. Sometimes, though, the story we tell ourselves isn't correct.

The week ahead



Charley Hull will be a key player for Europe in the Solheim Cup

Today

Football
Premier League
Nottm Forest v Burnley (7.45pm) *SSPL*

Tennis
WTA Guangzhou Open
China (to Sun) *Amazon Prime*

Racing
Brighton, Kempton, Thirsk, Worcester

Tomorrow

Football (7.45pm unless stated)
Uefa Champions League
Group E Feyenoord v Celtic (8pm) *TNT Sports 1*; Lazio v Atlético Madrid (8pm) *TNT Sports 6*. **Group F** Milan v Newcastle (5.45pm); PSG v B Dortmund (8pm) *TNT Sports 3*. **Group G** Man City v Red Star Belgrade (8pm) *TNT Sports 2*; Young Boys v RB Leipzig (5.45pm). **Group H** Barcelona v Antwerp (8pm) *TNT Sports 4*; Shakhtar Donetsk v Porto (8pm) *TNT Sports 7*
Sky Bet Championship
Bristol City v Plymouth *SSRB*; Cardiff v Coventry *SSRB*; Preston v Birmingham *SSArena*; QPR v Swansea *SSRB*; Sheff Wed v Middlesbrough (8pm) *Sky Sports Football*; Southampton v Ipswich *SSRB*
Sky Bet League One
Barnsley v Portsmouth; Peterborough v Cheltenham; Port Vale v Burton

Cricket (10.30am unless stated)
LV= Insurance County Championship
(first day of four) **Division One** Essex v Hampshire, Chelmsford; Lancashire v Nottinghamshire, Emirates Old Trafford; Middlesex v Warwickshire, Lord's; Somerset v Kent, Taunton; Surrey v Northamptonshire, the Oval **Division Two** Derbyshire v Sussex, Derby; Leicestershire v Yorkshire, Grace Road; Worcestershire v Durham, New Road

Racing
Yarmouth, Newcastle, Redcar, Uttoxeter

Wednesday

Football (7.45pm unless stated)
Uefa Champions League
Group A Bayern Munich v Man Utd (8pm) *TNT Sports 2*; Galatasaray v Copenhagen (5.45pm) *TNT Sports 3*. **Group B** Arsenal v PSV (8pm) *TNT Sports 1*; Sevilla v Lens (8pm) *TNT Sports 6*. **Group C** Braga v Napoli (8pm) *TNT Sports 4*; Real Madrid v Union Berlin (5.45pm) *TNT Sports 1*. **Group D** Benfica v Red Bull Salzburg (8pm) *TNT Sports 7*; Real Sociedad v Internazionale (8pm) *TNT Sports 3*
Sky Bet Championship
Blackburn v Sunderland *SSRB*; Huddersfield v Stoke *SSRB*; Hull v Leeds *SSRB*; Millwall v Rotherham *SSRB*; Norwich v Leicester (8pm) *Sky Sports Football*; Watford v West Brom *SSRB*

Rugby union
World Cup
Pool A Italy v Uruguay (4.45pm) *ITV4*

Cricket
First men's one-day international
England v Ireland, Headingley (12.30pm) *Sky Sports Cricket*

Racing
Beverley, Great Yarmouth, Kelso, Sandown

Thursday

Football (7.45pm unless stated)
Uefa Europa League
Group A Olympiakos v Freiburg (8pm) *TNT Sports 5*; West Ham v Backa Topola (8pm) *TNT Sports 2*. **Group B** Ajax v Marseille (8pm) *TNT Sports 4*; Brighton v AEK Athens (8pm) *TNT Sports 1*. **Group C** Rangers v Real Betis (8pm) *TNT Sports 3*; Sparta Prague v Aris Limassol (8pm) *TNT Sports 6*. **Group D** Atalanta v Rakow Czestochowa (8pm) *TNT Sports 8*; Sturm Graz v Sporting (8pm) *TNT Sports 7*. **Group E** Lask v Liverpool (5.45pm) *TNT Sports 1*; Union Saint-Gilloise v Toulouse (5.45pm) *TNT Sports 4*. **Group F** Panathinaikos v Villarreal (5.45pm) *TNT Sports 6*; Rennes v Maccabi Haifa (5.45pm). **Group G** Servette v Slavia Prague (5.45pm); Sheriff v Roma (5.45pm) *TNT Sports 5*. **Group H** B Leverkusen v Hacken (5.45pm) *TNT Sports 7*; Qarabag v Molde (5.45pm)
Uefa Europa Conference League
(selected matches) **Group E** Legia Warsaw v Aston Villa (5.45pm) *TNT Sports 2*. **Group G** Eintracht Frankfurt v Aberdeen (5.45pm) *TNT Sports 3*

Rugby union
World Cup
Pool A France v Namibia (8pm) *ITV4*

Cricket
Rachael Heyhoe Flint Trophy
Playoff Blaze v Stars (10.30am)

Golf
DP World Tour Open de France
Paris (to Sun) *Sky Sports Mix*

Racing
Ayr, Chelmsford, Yarmouth, Pontefract

Friday

Football (7.45pm unless stated)
Uefa Women's Nations League
England v Scotland *SSF*; Iceland v Wales (7pm) *BBC iPlayer*
Sky Bet Championship
Birmingham v QPR (8pm) *SSF*
cinch Scottish Championship
Queen's Park v Ayr

Rugby union
World Cup
Pool D Argentina v Samoa (4.45pm) *ITV1*

Rugby league (8pm unless stated)
Betfred Super League
Huddersfield v Warrington; Leeds v Castleford; Leigh v Wigan; Salford v Catalans Dragons; St Helens v Hull; Wakefield v Hull KR (8pm)

Cricket
First men's one-day international
India v Australia, Mohali (9am)

Tennis
ATP Laver Cup
Vancouver (to 25 Sep) *Eurosport 1*

Golf
Solheim Cup
Casares, Spain (to Sun) *Sky Sports Golf*

Racing
Ayr, Kempton, Newbury, Newton Abbot

Saturday

Football (3pm unless stated)
Premier League
Brentford v Everton (5.30pm) *SSPL*; Burnley v Man Utd (8pm) *TNT Sports 1*; Crystal Palace v Fulham; Luton v Wolves; Man City v Nottm Forest
Sky Bet Championship
Ipswich v Blackburn; Leeds v Watford; Leicester v Bristol City; Middlesbrough v Southampton; Plymouth v Norwich; Rotherham v Preston; Swansea v Sheff Wed; West Brom v Millwall
Sky Bet League One
Blackpool v Reading; Bolton v Peterborough; Bristol Rovers v Wigan; Burton Albion v Fleetwood; Cambridge Utd v Port Vale; Carlisle v Derby; Charlton v Wycombe; Cheltenham v Stevenage; Leyton Orient v Shrewsbury; Northampton v Barnsley; Oxford Utd v Exeter; Portsmouth v Lincoln City
Sky Bet League Two
Crewe v Colchester; Doncaster v Gillingham; Grimsby v Crawley Town; Harrogate Town v Salford City; Mansfield v Barrow; Morecambe v Swindon; Newport v Bradford; Notts County v Forest Green; Stockport County v Wrexham; Sutton Utd v MK Dons; Tranmere v Accrington Stanley; Walsall v AFC Wimbledon
cinch Scottish Premiership
Dundee v Kilmarnock; Hibernian v St Johnstone; Livingston v Celtic (12.30pm) *SSF*; St Mirren v Hearts
cinch Scottish Championship
Airdrieonians v Raith; Dunfermline v Morton; Inverness CT v Dundee Utd; Partick v Arbroath
cinch Scottish League One
Annan v Alloa; Edinburgh City v Cove Rangers; Kelty Hearts v Falkirk (5.30pm) *BBC iPlayer*; Montrose v Stirling; Queen of the South v Hamilton
cinch Scottish League Two
Bonnyrigg Rose v Stenhousemuir; Clyde v Elgin; Dumbarton v Peterhead; Spartans v East Fife; Stranraer v Forfar

Rugby union
World Cup
Pool B South Africa v Ireland (8pm) *ITV1*. **Pool C** Georgia v Portugal (1pm) *ITV1*. **Pool D** England v Chile (4.45pm) *ITV1*
Premiership Cup
Bath v London Scottish (2pm); Bedford v Caldy (3pm); Bristol v Northampton (2.30pm); Cambridge v Cornish Pirates (3pm); Ealing v Doncaster (3pm); Hartpury v Coventry (2.30pm); Jersey v Exeter (2pm); Saracens v Nottingham (2pm)

Rugby league
Betfred Women's Super League
Group One playoff semi-final
St Helens v Leeds (6pm); York Valkyrie v Wigan (3.30pm)

Cricket
Second men's one-day international
England v Ireland, Trent Bridge (11am) *Sky Sports Cricket*

Racing
Ayr, Catterick, Newbury, Newmarket, Wolverhampton, York

Sunday

Football (2pm unless stated)
Premier League
Arsenal v Tottenham *SSPL*; Brighton v Bournemouth; Chelsea v Aston Villa; Liverpool v West Ham; Sheffield Utd v Newcastle (4.30pm) *SSPL*
Sky Bet Championship
Stoke v Hull (noon) *Sky Sports Football*; Sunderland v Cardiff
cinch Scottish Premiership
Aberdeen v Ross County (3pm); Rangers v Motherwell (3pm)

Rugby union
World Cup
Pool B Scotland v Tonga (4.45pm) *ITV1*
Pool C Wales v Australia (8pm) *ITV1*

Rugby league
Betfred Women's Super League
Group Two promotion playoff semi-final Barrow v Bradford (noon); Leigh v Salford (2pm)

Cricket
Second men's one-day international
India v Australia, Indore (9am)
Rachael Heyhoe Flint Trophy
Final Vipers v Blaze/Stars, Northampton (10.30am)

Formula One
Japanese Grand Prix
Suzuka (6am) *Sky Sports F1*

Racing
Hamilton, Plumpton

The main event

South Africa v Ireland

8pm, Saturday, ITV1

Johnny Sexton has led the Irish to a perfect start at the World Cup but the Springboks represent their first major test in France



Football results

Premier League

	P	Home W	D	L	F	A	Away W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Form
1 Manchester City	5	2	0	0	6	1	3	0	0	8	2	+11	15	WWWWW
2 Tottenham	5	2	0	0	4	1	2	1	0	9	4	+8	13	DWWWW
3 Liverpool	5	2	0	0	6	1	2	1	0	6	3	+8	13	DWWWW
4 Arsenal	5	2	1	0	7	4	2	0	0	2	0	+5	13	WWDWW
5 Brighton	5	2	0	1	8	5	2	0	0	7	2	+8	12	WWLWW
6 West Ham	5	1	0	1	4	4	2	1	0	6	3	+3	10	DWWWL
7 Aston Villa	5	2	0	0	7	1	1	0	2	4	9	+1	9	LWWLW
8 Crystal Palace	5	1	0	1	3	3	1	1	1	3	4	-1	7	WLDWL
9 Fulham	5	1	0	1	1	3	1	1	1	4	7	-5	7	WLDLW
10 Brentford	5	0	3	0	5	5	1	0	1	3	1	+2	6	DWDDL
11 Newcastle	5	2	0	1	7	3	0	0	2	1	4	+1	6	WLLLW
12 Nottingham Forest	4	1	0	0	2	1	1	0	2	4	5	0	6	LWLW
13 Manchester Utd	5	2	0	1	5	5	0	0	2	1	5	-4	6	WLWLL
14 Chelsea	5	1	1	1	4	2	0	1	1	1	3	0	5	DLWLD
15 Bournemouth	5	0	2	1	1	3	0	1	1	3	5	-4	3	DLLDD
16 Wolverhampton	5	0	0	2	2	7	1	0	2	3	4	-6	3	LLWLL
17 Sheffield Utd	5	0	1	2	3	5	0	0	2	2	4	-4	1	LLLDL
18 Everton	5	0	0	3	0	3	0	1	1	2	6	-7	1	LLLDL
19 Burnley	3	0	0	3	3	11	0	0	0	0	0	-8	0	LLL
20 Luton	4	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	3	1	8	-8	0	LLLL

Aston Villa (0) **3** Durán 87, Douglas Luiz 90+8pen, Bailey 90+11 — **Crystal Palace** (0) **1** Édouard 47. 40,809

Bournemouth (0) **0** — **Chelsea** (0) **0**. 10,421

Everton (0) **0** — **Arsenal** (0) **1** Trossard 69

Fulham (0) **1** Vinícius 65 — **Luton** (0) **0**. 24,467

Manchester Utd (0) **1** Mejbri 73 — **Brighton** (1) **3** Welbeck 20, Gross 53, Pedro 71. 73,592

Newcastle (0) **1** Wilson 64pen — **Brentford** (0) **0**. 51,670

Tottenham (0) **2** Richarlison 90+8, Kulusevski 90+10 — **Sheffield Utd** (0) **1** Hamer 73. 61,706

West Ham (1) **1** Ward-Prowse 36 — **Manchester City** (0) **3** Doku 46, Silva 76, Haaland 86. 62,475

Wolves (1) **1** Hwang 7 — **Liverpool** (0) **3** Gakpo 55, Robertson 85, Bueno 90+1og

LEADING GOALSCORERS
7 Haaland (Manchester City). **4** Édouard (Crystal Palace), Ferguson (Brighton); Mbeumo (Brentford). **3** Awoniyi (Nottingham Forest); Bowen (West Ham); March (Brighton); Hwang (Wolves); Son (Tottenham); Wilson (Newcastle).

Scotland

CINCH PREMIERSHIP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Celtic	5	4	1	0	11	3	+8	13
St Mirren	5	3	2	0	9	6	+3	11
Motherwell	5	3	1	1	6	4	+2	10
Rangers	5	3	0	2	8	2	+6	9
Hearts	5	2	1	2	4	2	+2	7
Ross County	5	2	1	2	6	7	-1	7
Livingston	5	1	3	1	5	8	-3	6
Kilmarnock	5	1	2	2	4	5	-1	5
Dundee	5	1	2	2	5	8	-3	5
Hibernian	5	1	1	3	9	10	-1	4
Aberdeen	5	0	2	3	3	9	-6	2
St Johnstone	5	0	2	3	2	8	-6	2

Celtic (0) **3** Turnbull 52pen, Furuhashi 63, O'Riley 67 — **Dundee** (0) **0**

Hearts (1) **2** Oda 14, Boyce 64 — **Aberdeen** (0) **0**. 18,626

Kilmarnock (0) **2** Vassell 61, Wright 79 — **Hibernian** (1) **2** Dennis 8og, Vente 59. 6,277

Motherwell (0) **0** — **St Mirren** (0) **1** Tanser 55. 5,653

Ross County (0) **1** Murray 59 — **Livingston** (0) **1** Anderson 72. 3,160

St Johnstone (0) **0** — **Rangers** (1) **2** Danilo 16, Matondo 79. 6,967

CINCH CHAMPIONSHIP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Raith	5	4	1	0	10	6	+4	13
Dundee Utd	5	3	2	0	11	2	+9	11
Partick	5	3	1	1	14	6	+8	10
Arbroath	6	3	0	3	10	8	+2	9
Queen's Park	6	3	0	3	8	10	-2	9
Dunfermline	5	2	2	1	6	4	+2	8
Airdrieonians	5	2	0	3	5	10	-5	6
Morton	5	1	1	3	7	12	-5	4
Ayr	5	1	0	4	3	12	-9	3
Inverness CT	5	0	1	4	3	7	-4	1

Arbroath 4 Airdrieonians 0; Dundee Utd 1 Morton 1; Queen's Park 0 Dunfermline 2; Raith 1 Inverness CT 0
Friday Ayr 0 Partick 4

CINCH LEAGUE ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Falkirk	6	5	1	0	15	3	+12	16
Hamilton	6	5	1	0	11	3	+8	16
Stirling	6	3	1	2	5	8	-3	10
Queen of South	6	3	0	3	12	11	+1	9
Montrose	6	3	0	3	11	11	0	9
Kelty Hearts	6	2	2	2	7	7	0	8
Annan Athletic	6	2	1	3	9	12	-3	7
Alloa	6	2	0	4	8	12	-4	6
Cove Rangers	6	1	2	3	8	8	0	5
Edinburgh City	6	0	0	6	5	16	-11	0

Annan Athletic 3 Stirling 0; Cove Rangers 2 Kelty Hearts 2; Falkirk 1 Queen of South 0; Hamilton 2 Alloa 1; Montrose 5 Edinburgh City 2

LEADING GOALSCORERS
6 MacIver (Falkirk); Reilly (Queen of the South). **5** Burrell (Cove R). **4** Agyeman (Falkirk); Connell (Cove R); Cunningham (Kelty H); Daramola (Kelty H); Goss (Annan); Johnston (Kelty H); McKechnie (Queen of South); Megginson (Cove R)

CINCH LEAGUE TWO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Bonnyrigg Rose	6	3	2	1	12	6	+6	11
Stenhousemuir	6	3	2	1	10	4	+6	11
Dumbarton	6	3	2	1	10	7	+3	11
Stranraer	6	3	2	1	6	8	-2	11
Peterhead	6	3	1	2	8	5	+3	10
Spartans	6	2	3	1	7	6	+1	9
Elgin	6	1	2	3	5	9	-4	5
East Fife	6	1	2	3	4	8	-4	5
Forfar	6	0	4	2	4	7	-3	4
Clyde	6	0	2	4	2	8	-6	2

East Fife 2 Clyde 0; Elgin 2 Dumbarton 0; Forfar 2 Spartans 2; Peterhead 2 Bonnyrigg Rose 1; Stenhousemuir 5 Stranraer 0

HIGHLAND LEAGUE
Banks O'Dee 2 Buckie Thistle 0; Brechin 5 Strathspey Thistle 0; Clachnacuddin 0 Formartine United 5; Deveronvale 0 Huntly 6; Keith 0 Brora 1; Nairn County 4 Inverurie Loco Works 0; Rothes 1 Lossiemouth 0; Turriff United 2 Forres Mechanics 0; Wick Academy 0 Fraserburgh 3
Leading standings: 1 Formartine United P8 Pts19; **2** Brechin City 6-16; **3** Huntly 7-16; **4** Buckie Thistle 7-16

Europe

LA LIGA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Barcelona	5	4	1	0	13	4	+9	13
Real Madrid	4	4	0	0	8	2	+6	12
Athletic Bilbao	5	3	1	1	9	4	+5	10
Girona	4	3	1	0	7	2	+5	10
Valencia	5	3	0	2	7	4	+3	9
Rayo Vallecano	5	3	0	2	6	8	-2	9
Atletico Madrid	4	2	1	1	10	4	+6	7
Getafe	5	2	1	2	5	7	-1	7
Cádiz	5	2	1	2	5	7	-2	7
Real Betis	5	2	1	2	5	10	-5	7
Real Sociedad	4	1	3	0	7	5	+2	6
Osasuna	5	2	0	3	7	8	-1	6
Villarreal	5	2	0	3	8	10	-2	6
Alavés	5	2	0	3	5	7	-2	6
Mallorca	5	1	2	2	4	5	-1	5
Celta Vigo	5	1	1	3	4	7	-3	4
Sevilla	4	1	0	3	6	8	-2	3
Granada	4	1	0	3	7	12	-5	3
Las Palmas	5	0	2	3	1	4	-3	2
Almería	5	0	1	4	5	11	-6	1

Athletic Bilbao 3 Cádiz 0; Barcelona 5 Real Betis 0; Celta Vigo 0 Mallorca 1; Getafe 3 Osasuna 2; Real Madrid L Real Sociedad L; Sevilla 1 Las Palmas 0; Villarreal 2 Almería 1; Valencia 3 Atlético Madrid 0
Friday Vallecano 2 Alavés 0 **Today** Granada v Girona (8pm)

SERIE A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Internazionale	4	4	0	0	13	1	+12	12
Juventus	4	3	1	0	9	2	+7	10
Milan	4	3	0	1	9	7	+2	9
Lecce	4	2	2	0	7	4	+3	8
Napoli	4	2	1	1	8	5	+3	7
Frosinone	4	2	1	1	7	6	+1	7
Fiorentina	4	2	1	1	10	9	+1	7
Atalanta	4	2	0	2	8	6	+2	6
Verona	3	2	0	1	4	4	0	6
Bologna	3	1	1	1	3	4	-1	4
Torino	3	1	1	1	2	4	-2	4
Genoa	4	1	1	2	4	7	-3	4
Monza	4	1	1	2	3	6	-3	4
Lazio	4	1	0	3	4	7	-3	3
Udinese	4	0	3	1	1	4	-3	3
Sassuolo	4	1	0	3	5	9	-4	3
Salernitana	3	0	2	1	3	5	-2	2
Cagliari	4	0	2	2	1	4	-3	2
Roma	3	0	1	2	4	6	-2	1
Empoli	3	0	0	3	0	5	-5	0

Cagliari 0 Udinese 0; Frosinone 4 Sassuolo 2; Fiorentina 3 Atalanta 2; Genoa 2 Napoli 2; Internazionale 5 Milan 1; Juventus 3 Lazio 1; Monza 1 Lecce 1; Roma L Empoli L
Today Salernitana v Torino (5.30pm); Verona v Bologna (7.45pm)

BUNDESLIGA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Bayer Leverkusen	4	3	1	0	13	5	+8	10
Bayern Munich	4	3	1	0	11	4	+7	10
RB Leipzig	4	3	0	1	13	4	+9	9
Stuttgart	4	3	0	1	14	6	+8	9
Hoffenheim	4	3	0	1	10	6	+4	9
Wolfsburg	4	3	0	1	7	5	+2	9
Borussia Dortmund	4	2	2	0	8	5	+3	8
Union Berlin	4	2	0	2	9	7	+2	6
Eintracht Frankfurt	4	1	3	0	4	3	+1	6
Freiburg	4	2	0	2	5	10	-5	6
Heidenheim	4	1	1	2	8	9	-1	4
Werder Bremen	4	1	0	3	6	9	-3	3
VfL Bochum	4	0	3	1	4	9	-5	3
Borussia M'gladbach	4	0	2	2	8	12	-4	2
Augsburg	4	0	2	2	7	12	-5	2
Cologne	4	0	1	3	3	7	-4	1
Darmstadt	4	0	1	3	5	13	-8	1
Mainz	4	0	1	3	3	12	-9	1

Bochum 1 Eintracht Frankfurt 1; Cologne 1 Hoffenheim 3; Darmstadt 3 Borussia Mönchengladbach 3; Freiburg 2 Borussia Dortmund 4; Heidenheim 4 Werder Bremen 2; Mainz 1 VfB Stuttgart 3; RB Leipzig 3 Augsburg 0; Wolfsburg 2 Union Berlin 1
Friday Bayern Munich 2 Bayer Leverkusen 2

LIGUE 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Monaco	5	3	2	0	15	7	+8	11
Brest	5	3	1	1	7	6	+1	10
Nice	5	2	3	0	7	4	+3	9
Marseille	5	2	3	0	7	4	+3	9
Paris St-Germain	5	2	2	1	10	6	+4	8
Lille	5	2	2	1	7	7	0	8
Metz	5	2	2	1	7	9	-2	8
Rennes	5	1	4	0	10	6	+4	7
Reims	5	2	1	2	9	7	+2	7
Strasbourg	5	2	1	2	6	8	-2	7
Lorient	5	1	3	1	7	7	0	6
Toulouse	5	1	3	1	5	6	-1	6
Le Havre	4	1	2	1	8	6	+2	5
Montpellier	5	1	2	2	9	9	0	5
Nantes	5	1	2	2	6	8	-2	5
Clermont	5	0	1	4	4	10	-6	1
Lens	5	0	1	4	4	11	-7	1
Lyon	4	0	1	3	3	10	-7	1

Clermont 0 Nantes 1; Lorient 2 Monaco 2; Lens 0 Metz 1; Lyon L Le Havre L; Marseille 0 Toulouse 0; Reims 1 Brest 2; Rennes 2 Lille 2; Strasbourg 2 Montpellier 2
Friday Paris St-Germain 2 Nice 3

EREDIVISIE *(top 10)*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
PSV	4	4	0	0	13	1	+12	12
AZ	4	4	0	0	12	2	+10	12
Twente	4	4	0	0	12	3	+9	12
Feyenoord	5	3	2	0	19	5	+14	11
Fortuna Sittard	5	2	3	0	7	4	+3	9
Sparta	5	2	2	1	8	7	+1	8
Go Ahead Eagles	4	2	1	1	9	9	0	7
PEC Zwolle	5	2	1	2	6	7	-1	7
Heracles	4	2	0	2	7	9	-2	6
Excelsior	5	1	3	1	9	10	-1	6

Excelsior 0 Almere City 0; Feyenoord 6 Heerenveen 1; PEC Zwolle 1 Go Ahead Eagles 1; Vitesse 0 RKC Waalwijk 2; PSV Eindhoven 4 NEC Nijmegen 0; Fortuna Sittard 3 Volendam 1; Heracles 1 Utrecht 3; Twente 3 Ajax 1; AZ Alkmaar 2 Sparta Rotterdam 0

Sky Bet Championship

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Preston	6	5	1	0	10	4	+6	16
Leicester	6	5	0	1	11	5	+6	15
Ipswich	6	5	0	1	12	7	+5	15
Norwich	6	4	1	1	15	8	+7	13
Hull	6	3	2	1	10	7	+3	11
Birmingham	6	3	2	1	7	5	+2	11
Sunderland	6	3	1	2	12	6	+6	10
Blackburn	6	3	1	2	8	9	-1	10
Southampton	6	3	1	2	11	16	-5	10
Leeds	6	2	3	1	10	7	+3	9
Bristol City	6	2	3	1	5	5	0	9
Watford	6	2	2	2	9	5	+4	8
West Brom	6	2	2	2	10	9	+1	8
Plymouth	6	2	1	3	9	7	+2	7
Coventry	6	1	4	1	9	7	+2	7
Cardiff	6	2	1	3	10	10	0	7
Huddersfield	6	2	1	3	6	10	-4	7
Millwall	6	2	1	3	4	8	-4	7
Stoke	6	2	0	4	5	7	-2	6
QPR	6	2	0	4	6	11	-5	6
Rotherham	6	1	1	4	7	13	-6	4
Swansea	6	0	2	4	6	11	-5	2
Sheffield Wed	6	0	1	5	4	10	-6	1
Middlesbrough	6	0	1	5	4	13	-9	1

Blackburn	(1) **2**	**Middlesbrough**	(0) **1**
Szmodics 31 49 16,348		Crooks 55	
Bristol City	(0) **0**	**West Brom**	(0) **0**
21,836			
Cardiff	(0) **2**	**Swansea**	(0) **0**
Tanner 71, Ramsey 86pen		28,648	
Huddersfield	(1) **2**	**Rotherham**	(0) **0**
Koroma 18, Thomas 70		19,050	
Millwall	(0) **0**	**Leeds**	(1) **3**
17,909		Piroe 15 77, Rutter 81	
Norwich	(1) **1**	**Stoke**	(0) **0**
Stacey 45		25,816	
Preston	(2) **2**	**Plymouth**	(0) **1**
Holmes 1, Millar 25 17,542		Hardie 61	
QPR	(1) **1**	**Sunderland**	(1) **3**
Paal 12 16,383		Clarke 45, Ballard 57 Ba 81	
Sheffield Wed	(0) **0**	**Ipswich**	(1) **1**
25,938		Chaplin 45	
Watford	(0) **2**	**Birmingham**	(0) **0**
Rajovic 90, Andrews 90		18,932	

Played on Friday

Hull	(0) **1**	**Coventry**	(1) **1**
Connolly 87		Latibeaudiere 27	
Southampton	(1) **1**	**Leicester**	(3) **4**
Edozie 25		Vardy 1, McAteer 18 Ndidi 45, Mavididi 67	

LEADING GOALSCORERS

	League	Total
Hardie Plymouth	5	5
Rowe Norwich	4	5
Armstrong Southampton	4	4
Connolly Hull	4	4
Keane Preston	4	4
Szmodics Blackburn	4	4
Tufan Hull	4	4

Sky Bet League One

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Exeter	8	5	1	2	10	4	+6	16
Port Vale	7	5	1	1	8	10	-2	16
Oxford Utd	7	5	0	2	12	7	+5	15
Stevenage	8	4	3	1	11	6	+5	15
Barnsley	7	4	1	2	16	7	+9	13
Portsmouth	7	3	4	0	10	3	+7	13
Bolton	7	4	1	2	13	9	+4	13
Wycombe	7	4	1	2	8	9	-1	13
Lincoln City	7	3	3	1	11	7	+4	12
Cambridge Utd	7	4	0	3	9	6	+3	12
Derby	7	3	1	3	12	9	+3	10
Peterborough	7	3	1	3	9	10	-1	10
Bristol Rovers	7	2	3	2	8	8	0	9
Blackpool	7	2	3	2	4	6	-2	9
Shrewsbury	7	3	0	4	4	8	-4	9
Leyton Orient	8	2	2	4	7	13	-6	8
Charlton	7	2	1	4	8	10	-2	7
Carlisle	8	1	4	3	7	9	-2	7
Northampton	7	2	1	4	5	7	-2	7
Wigan*	7	4	1	2	12	8	+4	5
Reading**	7	3	0	4	6	6	0	5
Burton Albion	7	0	2	5	2	11	-9	2
Cheltenham	7	0	1	6	0	9	-9	1
Fleetwood Town	7	0	1	6	3	13	-10	1

**deducted eight points for failing to pay players*
***deducted four points for failing to pay players*

Barnsley	(1) **2**	**Burton Albion**	(0) **0**
Cole 21 68			
Derby	(0) **1**	**Portsmouth**	(0) **1**
Collins 86pen 27,999		Bishop 90	
Exeter	(0) **1**	**Cheltenham**	(0) **0**
Watts 68		6,312	
Fleetwood Town	(0) **0**	**Oxford Utd**	(2) **3**
3,744		Mills 16, Bodin 27, Edwards 60	
Lincoln City	(0) **1**	**Carlisle**	(1) **1**
Hamilton 49 8,514		Plange 19	
Peterborough	(1) **1**	**Leyton Orient**	(1) **1**
Kyprianou 21 7,945		Beckles 34	
Port Vale	(0) **1**	**Northampton**	(0) **0**
Garrity 84		7,532	
Reading	(0) **2**	**Bolton**	(1) **1**
Savage 77, Vickers 86 13,155		Charles 20	
Shrewsbury	(0) **0**	**Bristol Rovers**	(0) **2**
6,070		Marquis 73, Collins 90	
Stevenage	(1) **1**	**Charlton**	(0) **1**
Reid 34 5,118		Blackett-Taylor 90pen	
Wigan	(0) **2**	**Cambridge Utd**	(0) **1**
Humphrys 57 Aasgaard 62		Okenabirhie 76pen 10,078	
Wycombe	(1) **2**	**Blackpool**	(0) **0**
Vokes 13, Hanlan 46		4,691	

LEADING GOALSCORERS

	League	Total
Cole Barnsley	8	8
Charles Bolton	5	6
Reid Stevenage	5	5
Waghorn Derby	5	5
Wyke Wigan	5	5

Sky Bet League Two

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Gillingham	8	6	0	2	7	6	+1	18
Notts County	8	5	2	1	15	11	+4	17
Swindon	7	4	3	0	22	11	+11	15
Wrexham	8	4	3	1	20	15	+5	15
Mansfield	8	3	5	0	15	8	+7	14
Crawley Town	8	4	2	2	14	15	-1	14
Crewe	8	3	4	1	19	13	+6	13
Accrington Stanley	8	4	1	3	13	11	+2	13
MK Dons	8	4	1	3	15	14	+1	13
Barrow	7	3	3	1	8	6	+2	12
AFC Wimbledon	8	2	5	1	12	8	+4	11
Newport County	8	3	2	3	16	15	+1	11
Stockport County	8	3	2	3	12	12	0	11
Walsall	8	3	2	3	11	13	-2	11
Grimsby	8	2	4	2	9	9	0	10
Morecambe	7	3	1	3	7	8	-1	10
Bradford	8	2	4	2	6	8	-2	10
Colchester	7	2	1	4	9	9	0	7
Salford City	8	2	1	5	9	13	-4	7
Harrogate Town	8	2	1	5	5	9	-4	7
Forest Green	8	2	1	5	6	14	-8	7
Doncaster	8	1	2	5	7	15	-8	5
Tranmere	8	1	0	7	10	15	-5	3
Sutton Utd	8	1	0	7	11	20	-9	3

AFC Wimbledon	(2) **2**	**Crewe**	(0) **2**
Neufville 30, Tilley 38 8,147		Tabiner 51, Nevitt 90	
Accrington Stanley	(1) **4**	**Sutton Utd**	(0) **1**
Leigh 45pen, 57 Longelo 63, Pritchard 90		Patrick 64 2,036	
Bradford	(0) **1**	**Harrogate Town**	(0) **1**
Walker 90		Daly 78	
Colchester	(1) **1**	**Mansfield**	(0) **1**
Taylor 30 3,740		Keillor-Dunn 90	
Crawley Town	(0) **3**	**Tranmere**	(1) **2**
Darcy 61, Tsaroulla 68 Lolos 90		Jolley 21, Taylor 66 2,961	
Forest Green	(0) **1**	**Doncaster**	(1) **2**
Moore-Taylor 84		Biggins 35, Close 90	
Gillingham	(2) **2**	**Morecambe**	(1) **1**
Lapslie 9, Mahoney 23		Mellon 11 5,915	
MK Dons	(1) **1**	**Stockport County**	(2) **2**
Eisa 26 7,085		Barry 17 Powell 45	
Newport County	(1) **1**	**Barrow**	(0) **1**
McLoughlin 40 3,539		Campbell 69pen	
Swindon	(1) **2**	**Walsall**	(0) **0**
Austin 2 Hepburn-Murphy 88		9,131	
Wrexham	(2) **3**	**Grimsby**	(0) **0**
Palmer 21, Boyle 31 Lee 79		10,116	

Played on Friday

Salford City	(0) **0**	**Notts County**	(1) **2**
		McGoldrick 37, Crowley 63	

LEADING GOALSCORERS

	League	Total
Young Swindon	9	9
Evans Newport County	7	8
Tilley AFC Wimbledon	7	8

Other football

VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE
AFC Fylde 1 Eastleigh 2; Aldershot 1 Gateshead 1; Bromley 3 Oldham 0; Ebbsfleet 0 Chesterfield 1; FC Halifax 0 Dorking 1; Hartlepool 0 Woking 2; Kidderminster 0 Solihull Moors 1; Maidenhead 0 Boreham Wood 1; Oxford City 0 Dag & Red 0; Rochdale 4 Barnet 2; Wealdstone 0 Altrincham 0; York 3 Southend 0.
Leading standings: 1 Chesterfield P9 Pts22; **2** Solihull Moors 9-19; **3** Barnet 9-19.

EMIRATES FA CUP SECOND ROUND QUALIFYING
Ashton 2 Atherton 2; Barton 1 Wroxham 1; Barwell 1 Bromsgrove 2; Bedford 2 Gorleston 3; Biggleswade FC 1 Cambridge City 2; Bishop's Stortford 3 Biggleswade Town 3; Blyth 1 Bradford PA 1; Boston 4 Leamington 0; Bracknell 2 Havant & W 1; Brightlingsea 1 Billericay 3; Canvey Island 1 Braintree 1; Carshalton 4 Kingstonian 0; Chippenham 1 Hungerford 4; Cleethorpes 2 Alfreton 4; Coalville 2 Stafford 1; Cray 2 Ramsgate 2; Dartford 2 Welling 3; Didcot 2 Bristol Manor Farm 0.; Dover 3 Hastings 2; Eastbourne Borough 0 Worthing 1; Eastbourne Utd 1 Berkhamsted 3; Enfield 3 Felixstowe & Walton 0; Farnham 1 Chesham 2; Farsley 1 Scarborough 1; FC United 0 Warrington Rylands 4; Gloucester 0 Totton 3; Gosport 3 Cribbs 0; Halesowen 5 Alvechurch 2; Haringey 4 Tonbridge 2; Hashtag Utd 0 Needham 1; Hayes & Yeading 0 Slough 2; Hereford 2 Anstey 0; Highworth 1 Weymouth 3; Hitchin 3 Sudbury 0; Horndean 0 Poole 3; Horsham 2 Marlow 2; Hyde 2 Albion Sports 1; Kettering 1 Sporting Khalsa 0; King's Lynn 0 Aveley 0; Knaphill 0 Hanworth 1; Lancaster City 4 Marske 1; Larkhall 2 Bath City 3; Leiston 1 St Albans 2; Lincoln Utd 0 Worksop 3; Macclesfield 2 Buxton 0; Margate 2 Folkestone 2; Mickleover 3 Spalding 1; Morpeth 3 Southport 0; Mossley 1 Emley 1; Mousehole 0 Salisbury 5; Nantwich 2 Banbury 1; Northwood 2 Cray Valley 2; Peterborough Sports 0 Redditch 0; Plymouth Parkway 2 Frome 2; Reading City 1 Winchester 1; Royston 1 Hemel Hempstead 3; Runcorn 1 Chorley 1; Rushall 3 Carlton 2; Scunthorpe 0 Brackley 0; Sheppey 3 Burgess Hill 0; South Shields 2 Bishop Auckland 0; Southall 1 Hampton & R 2; Spennymoor 2 Marine 2; Steyning 1 Maidstone 4; Stourbridge 2 Matlock 0; Tadcaster 1 Chester 3; Tamworth 2 Harborough 1; Ware 3 Chelmsford 3; Warrington Town 2 Curzon Ashton 3; Weston-super-Mare 2 Truro 0; Whitby 2 Prescot 1; Whitehawk 4 Redhill 0; Wimborne 0 Torquay 3; Wingate & Finchley 0 Farnborough 0; Witham 1 Hornchurch 5; Worcester 0 Leek 2; Yeovil 7 Stoneham 1.
Friday: Ascot Utd 1 Lewes 2; Darlington 3 Workington 1; Merthyr Town 1 Taunton Town 1.

FA WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP
Birmingham City 0 Charlton 1; Durham 1 London City 0; Reading 1 Southampton 4; Sheffield Utd 1 Lewes 0; Sunderland 1 Crystal Palace 1; Watford 0 Blackburn 1.
Leading standings: 1 Southampton P4 Pts9; **2** Blackburn 4-9; **3** Crystal Palace 4-8.

CYMRU PREMIER LEAGUE
Connah's Quay 4 Cardiff Met Uni 0; Newtown 2 Barry 0; Penybont 3 Caernarfon 2; Pontypridd 0 Bala Town 0; The New Saints 5 Haverfordwest County 1.
Friday: Colwyn Bay 3 Aberystwyth 1.
Leading standings: 1 The New Saints P7 Pts17; **2** Connah's Quay 7-15; **3** Bala Town 7-13.

SPORTS DIRECT IRISH PREMIERSHIP
Ballymena Utd 1 Loughgall 3; Coleraine 3 Newry 1; Glenavon 2 Carrick 1; Glentoran 0 Dungannon Swifts 0.
Friday: Larne 2 Linfield 0.
Leading standings: 1 Glentoran P8 Pts17; **2** Linfield 7-16; **3** Larne 7-15.

IRISH PREMIER DIVISION
Sligo Rovers 2 UCD 0.
Friday: Derry City 1 Shamrock Rover 1.
Leading standings: 1 Shamrock Rovers P30 Pts58; **2** Derry City 30-54; **3** St Patrick's 29-50.

Other results

Rugby union

PREMIERSHIP CUP
Bath 10 Jersey Reds 34; Bristol L Ealing 28; Caldy 26 Ampthill 22; Exeter 38 Cornish Pirates 13; Harlequins 21 Coventry 21; London Scottish 22 Doncaster 24; Northampton 55 Cambridge 5; Saracens 20 Gloucester 29

Rugby league

BETFRED SUPER LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PD	Pts
Wigan	26	19	0	7	712	354	+358	38
Catalans Dragons	26	19	0	7	701	412	+289	38
St Helens	26	19	0	7	583	354	+229	38
Leigh	26	16	0	10	579	498	+81	32
Hull KR	26	15	0	11	533	486	+47	30
Warrington	26	13	0	13	577	504	+73	26
Salford	26	13	0	13	486	493	-7	26
Leeds	26	11	0	15	489	532	-43	22
Huddersfield	26	11	0	15	465	532	-67	22
Hull	26	10	0	16	464	624	-160	20
Castleford	26	6	0	20	323	728	-405	12
Wakefield	26	4	0	22	291	686	-395	8

Catalans Dragons 61 Leeds 0; Hull 20 Huddersfield 52; Hull KR 12 Salford 0. **Played on Friday** Leigh 20 Wakefield 19; Warrington 6 St Helens 18; Wigan 48 Castleford 6

BETFRED CHAMPIONSHIP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PD	Pts
Featherstone	26	24	0	2	1017	285	+732	48
Toulouse	26	18	0	8	806	369	+437	36
Sheffield	26	16	0	10	764	543	+221	32
Bradford	26	15	1	10	660	556	+104	31
London Broncos	26	15	0	11	576	536	+40	30
Halifax	26	14	1	11	678	550	+128	29
Batley	25	14	0	11	460	486	-26	28
Widnes	26	13	0	13	609	590	+19	26
York	25	13	0	12	511	525	-14	26
Barrow	26	8	1	17	453	641	-188	17
Whitehaven	26	8	0	18	465	783	-318	16
Keighley	26	8	0	18	490	813	-323	16
Swinton	26	8	0	18	404	727	-323	16
Newcastle	26	5	1	20	397	886	-489	11

Keighley 22 Halfiax 23; London Broncos 10 Bradford 12; Newcastle 36 Barrow 24; Swinton 21 Whitehaven 20; Toulouse 16 Featherstone 29; Widnes 18 Sheffield 38

BETFRED LEAGUE ONE
Playoff Hunslet 18 North Wales 25

Cricket

METRO BANK ONE-DAY CUP FINAL

Leicestershire v Hampshire

Trent Bridge Leicestershire beat Hampshire by two runs.

Leicestershire

RK Patel c Brown b Barker	1
S Budinger c Weatherley b Barker	7
***LJ Hill** c Brown b Currie	42
CN Ackermann c Middleton b Holland	6
PWA Mulder lbw b Barker	0
L Kimber c Brown b Currie	18
ST Evans c Weatherley b Currie	60
†H Swindells not out	117
TAR Scriven not out	5
Extras (lb1, w10)	11
Total (for 7, 50 overs)	267

Fall 4, 9, 16, 19, 56, 89, 240.
Did not bat CJC Wright, J Hull.
Bowling Barker 10-1-65-3; Holland 10-1-30-1; Dawson 10-0-47-0; Currie 10-0-63-3; Crane 9-0-56-0; Prest 1-0-5-0.

Hampshire

FS Middleton b Mulder	15
***NRT Gubbins** run out (Mulder)	20
TJ Prest c & b Hull	51
†BC Brown c Ackermann b Wright	33
AHT Donald c Ackermann b Wright	6
JJ Weatherley c sub b Ackermann	40
LA Dawson c Wright b Hull	57
IG Holland c Hull b Mulder	16
KHD Barker not out	12
SW Currie not out	1
Extras (lb1, w9, nb4)	14
Total (for 8, 50 overs)	265

Fall 34, 38, 117, 123, 136, 218, 243, 263.
Did not bat MS Crane.
Bowling Mulder 10-0-43-2; Wright 10-0-44-2; Scriven 10-0-46-0; Hull 10-0-75-2; Ackermann 10-0-56-1.
Toss Leicestershire elected to bat.
Umpires GD Lloyd and JD Middlebrook.
Match referee WR Smith.

ASIA CUP FINAL
Colombo (RPS) Sri Lanka 50 (Mohammad Siraj 6-21). India 51-0. India beat Sri Lanka by 10 wickets.

FIFTH MEN'S ONE-DAY INTERNATIONAL
Johannesburg South Africa 315-9 (AK Markram 93, DA Miller 63). Australia 193 (MR Marsh 71; M Jansen 5-39, KA Maharaj 4-33). South Africa beat Australia by 122 runs and won the five-match series 3-2.

SECOND YOUTH TEST (second day of four)
Northampton Australia U19 396 (RR Hicks 131, H Singh 100, CN Frendo 53 no, HT Dixon 51). England U19 182-5.

Golf

DP WORLD TOUR BMW PGA CHAMPIONSHIP (Wentworth)
Leading final scores (GB/Ire unless stated)

270 R Fox (NZ) 69 68 66 67. **271** T Hatton 68 69 68 66; A Rai 69 67 67 68. **272** J Rahm (Sp) 71 67 66 68. **273** V Hovland (Nor) 69 70 67 67. **274** T Fleetwood 69 66 67 72. **275** R McIlroy 72 71 67 65; C Shinkwin 68 71 64 72; A Scott (Aus) 71 69 67 68. **276** L Åberg (Swe) 68 66 66 76; S Straka (Aut) 70 66 69 71; C Syme 67 70 65 74; H Du Plessis (SA) 72 71 64 69. **277** M-W Lee (Aus) 71 67 69 70; T Hoge (US) 71 70 68 68; R Langasque (Fr) 69 71 67 70; J Luiten (Neth) 71 70 67 69. **278** S Lowry 69 71 67 71; M Fitzpatrick 66 72 71 69; B Horschel (US) 75 63 68 72; V Norrman (Swe) 70 70 69 69; T Kim (Kor) 70 67 69 72; A Björk (Swe) 68 73 69 68; J Morrison 67 71 69 71. **279** R Hoshino (Jpn) 67 71 68 73; M Helligkilde (Den) 64 72 69 74; J Scrivener (Aus) 68 73 70 68. **280** A Meronk (Pol) 67 68 73 72; J Campillo (Sp) 67 70 72 71; R Ramsay 66 73 68 73; M Baldwin 67 70 72 71; N Kimsey 70 68 67 75. **281** T Olesen (Den) 71 71 69 70; T Detry (Bel) 67 68 71 75. **282** J Brun (Fr) 68 73 69 72. **283** A Otaegui (Sp) 69 71 71 72; J Rose 72 71 68 72; L Donald 70 73 71 69; S Sharma (Ind) 73 69 71 70; L de Jager (SA) 69 72 72 70; A Sullivan 72 68 71 72; D Huizing (Neth) 74 69 69 71; D van Driel (Neth) 70 70 71 72; M Lindberg (Swe) 71 71 69 72. **284** R Højgaard (Den) 73 67 67 77; Y Paul (Ger) 68 72 69 75; R MacIntyre 72 69 73 70; M Kawamura (Jpn) 70 65 76 73; J Veerman (US) 73 68 71 72; R Sciot-Siegrist (Fr) 69 69 74 72.

USPGA FORTINET CHAMPIONSHIP (Napa, California)
Leading third-round scores (US unless stated)
199 S Theegala 68 64 67. **201** C Davis (Aus) 68 68 65; Kim S (Kor) 65 67 69; J Thomas 69 67 65. **202** E Cole 68 66 68; M Kuchar 70 67 65. **204** C Tarren (Eng) 68 69 67. **205** P Malnati 71 68 66; R Shelton 69 68 68; M Trainer (Fr) 71 66 68. **206** S Harrington 70 68 68; M Homa 70 66 70; Lee K (Kor) 70 67 69. **207** K Kraft 66 69 72; J Lower 67 69 71; C Ramey 69 69 69; D Thompson 70 68 69. **208** Bae S (Kor) 67 66 75; Z Blair 66 73 69; B Garnett 73 66 69; M Hubbard 66 72 70; H Lebioda 71 68 69; S Ryder 68 68 72; B Todd 69 71 68; D J. Trahan 70 68 70; J Walker 70 69 69; V Whaley 69 70 69. **209** J Dufner 66 71 72; L Herbert (Aus) 63 75 71; R Moore 70 67 72; M Schwab (Aut) 71 70 68; G Sigg 69 71 69; JJ Spaun 71 69 69; S Stallings 71 70 68; D Wu 70 69 70; C Young 70 71 68.

Greg Wood's racing tips

Thirsk 1.50 It's How We Roll **2.20** Macarone **2.55** Marie's Secret **3.30** Zabriskie Point **4.05** Strip Out **4.40** Mezzo Soprano **5.15** Victoria Falls **5.50** Ey Up Its Jazz
Brighton 1.55 Concierge **2.30** Harry The Haggler **3.05** Send In The Clouds **3.40** Plus Point **4.15** Green Power **4.45** Iconic Knight **5.20** Voodoo Ray
Worcester 2.05 Fringill Dike **2.40** Hang In There **3.15** Little Peter **3.50** Basman Palace **4.25** Alright Dai **5.00** The Geordie Ginge **5.35** Ocean Reach **6.10** Classic Concorde
Kempton 4.52 Pinpoint **5.30** King Of Ithaca **6.00** Vultar **6.30** Heavens To Betsy **7.00** Green Team (nap) **7.30** King Of The Dance (nb) **8.00** Red Hat Eagle **8.30** Albus Anne

Tennis

DAVIS CUP FINALS (Manchester)
Group Stage: Great Britain v France: D Evans (GB) bt A Fils (Fr) 3-6 6-3 6-4; **U Humbert** (Fr) bt C Norrie (GB) 7-6 3-6 7-5.

Cycling

VUELTA A ESPAÑA
Stage 21 (Madrid to Madrid, 101.1 km)
1 K Groves (Aus) Alpecin-Deceuninck 2hr 24min 13sec; **2** F Ganna (It) Ineos Grenadiers **3** N Denz (Ger) Bora-Hansgrohe **4** H Page (Fr) Intermarché-Circus-Wanty **5** I García Cortina (Sp) Movistar all at same time.
Final standings: 1 S Kuss (US) Jumbo-Visma 76hr 48min 21sec; **2** J Vingegaard (Den) Jumbo-Visma +00:17sec **3** P Roglic (Svn) Jumbo-Visma +1:08 **4** J Ayuso (Sp) UAE Emirates +3:18; **5** M Landa (Sp) Bahrain Victorious +3:37.

Snooker

SHANGHAI MASTERS (China)
Final: R O'Sullivan (Eng) bt L Brecel (Bel) 11-9

Cycling

Kuss claims Vuelta a España as Groves takes sprint finish

Jeremy Whittle

Sepp Kuss became the first American to win one of Europe's Grand Tours since Chris Horner in 2013, arriving in Madrid yesterday evening as champion of the 2023 Vuelta a España.

As the Alpecin-Deceuninck rider Kaden Groves won the Vuelta's final sprint finish in the Spanish capital, Kuss's Jumbo-Visma team took their third Grand Tour of the year, after winning the Giro d'Italia, through Primoz Roglic, and the Tour de France, through Jonas Vingegaard.

The Dutch team also took a clean sweep in the overall standings, with Vingegaard and Roglic taking second and third overall, respectively, in the Vuelta. The team's dominance of the 2023 season has fuelled some scepticism, particularly after their rider Michel Hessmann tested positive for a banned diuretic in June and was investigated by German authorities.

Speaking at his winner's press conference, Kuss was clear in his rejection of performance enhancement. "For me personally, cheating or doping is just out of the question because it's not even sports for me then," the Coloradan said. "Part of sports is losing, and of course you want to win, but if you're doing something that's prohibited or cheating then you're afraid of losing which, I think, is one of the most important things about sports: accepting that sometimes you're not good enough."

Vingegaard, as he did during the Tour de France, said he "understood the scepticism" but added: "People also need to know how much we sacrifice for everything and how much we do everything in detail. I think that especially in this team, we do everything perfectly and it makes such a big difference. I'm 100% sure that my two colleagues are not taking anything as well as myself."

Meanwhile, Geraint Thomas was left to lick his wounds. The Ineos Grenadiers leader fell victim to serial crashes and slid far down the standings. "I just didn't want to quit when I could still race or ride," he told GCN at the finish of stage 20. "I wouldn't say I've been racing much but coming here as a leader I felt like I had to commit for the boys and hang around, and to be there for morale."



Sepp Kuss led a Jumbo-Visma clean sweep

Golf

Fantastic Fox stays 'cool' to claim PGA Championship

Ewan Murray

Ludvig Åberg displayed his fallibility, Rory McIlroy charged and Tyrrell Hatton looked set to hand Luke Donald's European team a huge Ryder Cup boost. Instead, it was Ryan Fox who prevailed at the PGA Championship after a spectacular closing 13 holes at Wentworth.

Åberg, who started the final round with a two-shot lead, slumped to a 76. It appeared pressure on the 23-year-old, who secured a Ryder Cup berth despite turning professional only in June, finally told.

The Swede's struggles opened up the tournament; McIlroy's 65 moved him to 13 under par. That proved five shy of Fox, who was three over after five holes of his final round. The New Zealander played the next stretch in eight under par to take the trophy by one from Hatton and Aaron Rai.

Fox's emotional wife and children looked on. "We have been through a pretty tough year as a family," the champion said. "We lost my father-in-law in June after a really short battle with cancer. It's been tough going back and forth [to New Zealand]. To come over here and have a good week in Ireland last week, and now this, I don't think I could have wished for better. To have everyone here, including little Margot who is four months old, is very, very special.

"I felt surprisingly calm and in control the whole day. It's just cool to be in that situation and pull it off."

For so long, this looked like Hatton's tournament. He played the front nine in 31 and birdied the 10th and 11th to establish a lead. A dropped shot at the 15th proved fatal; he signed for a 66 but cut a rueful figure.

"I definitely have mixed emotions," he said. "It was nice to have a great week before, and now to get ready for the Ryder Cup. I am really excited to be part of Team Europe."

So, too, is McIlroy. He had flirted with the cut on Friday but secured a top-10 finish. "If I had gone home on Friday night, I wouldn't have had the opportunity to feel better about my game," he said.

"I think what I did well over the weekend … I managed my game better but it would be nice to go to Rome without those misses."



Ryan Fox overcame an early triple bogey to win at Wentworth



Sainz savours special victory

Carlos Sainz celebrates his superb win at the Marina Bay Circuit with his Ferrari team
MOHD RASFAN/ AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Formula One

Sainz ends Verstappen's streak in thrilling Singapore battle

Giles Richards

Were Formula One considering quite what a show it would have without Red Bull's dominance this season, the Singapore Grand Prix delivered a glimpse of this much-anticipated future, a spectacle beyond even the sport's most wishful thinking.

Transforming from sedate to sensational as Ferrari's Carlos Sainz hung on for a mighty victory, it was fitting that the curtain should fall on Red Bull's relentless winning streak with a thriller in which the world champion elect Max Verstappen was but a bit-part player.

Sainz's win from pole, the second of his career, was hard fought and deserved after a frenetic denouement, impossible to call until the flag fell. He won from McLaren's Lando Norris and Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton as the three teams went wheel to wheel with one another.

When Sainz crossed the line only a second separated the top three, a finish such as we have not seen all season since Red Bull made a flying start in Bahrain. Sainz acknowledged quite what a battle it had been. "Wins never come easy and today we had a bit of everything," he said.

"We had to fight for it, we had to be strategic, we had to nail everything and commit to our plans. We managed to bring home a win that was never easy but that feels incredible."

Indeed the intensity of said fight could not have been better illustrated than by the heartbreaking conclusion for George Russell who had led the late Mercedes charge, when the team took a gamble on switching to fresh tyres 17 laps from the end and chased down the leaders.

Refusing to ease up, harrying Norris he clipped the barriers and went off on the final lap and Hamilton took the last podium place.

It was a very human drama at the heart of this technological arms race and all but impossible not to feel for the 25-year-old, who was visibly upset afterwards. "I have no words," he said. "Such a long race, a physical race, we were half a car's length from winning if I had got past Lando. A millimetre lapse of concentration and it was game over. I feel like I let myself down and the team down."

Inevitably he was furious with himself but it was nonetheless a bravura performance – a driver willing to give his all, pushing to the last. The team principal, Toto Wolff, said the driver deserved only sympathy and "an arm around the shoulder" after a magnificent effort.

Behind him Red Bull and Verstappen had been off the pace all weekend in Singapore, their car hard to balance and struggling for grip. Race day was an improvement but there was to be no repeat of the world champion simply sashaying through the field, with overtaking so hard at Marina Bay.

The 14 consecutive wins for Red Bull this season and Verstappen's 10-win record run were brought to an end then by Ferrari as Verstappen had a taste of scrapping in the midfield for the first time this season. Ultimately his fifth place from 11th on the grid was better than might have been expected and has extended his lead in the world championship over teammate Sergio Pérez to 151 points.

Yet while he languished in unfamiliar territory, at the front of the field everyone else was playing their part. F1 wanted closer racing when it brought in the new regulations last year and with Red Bull out of the picture they might consider that in Singapore they had nailed it.

While the pace of the frontrunners was closely matched, in the opening 40 laps the leaders played a tense, tactical game, unwilling to show their hand until Mercedes threw the dice. With a late safety car and knowing they had a new set of medium tyres in hand, they pitted both drivers and set them loose to chase down the lead.

Under the arclights of Marina Bay Russell and Hamilton were dazzling. Both banged in fastest lap after fastest lap until they passed Ferrari's Charles Leclerc, who finished fourth, and with three laps to go had caught Sainz and Norris. In a gripping finale Russell threw everything at Norris, who defended brilliantly in a three-team fight.

Yet there was more than just raw talent on display, too: Norris was able to take advantage of his old friend Sainz, who with no little tactical nous just allowed him to stay within DRS range to hold the place against the Mercedes. Every skill, every edge was on display in a gladiatorial finale from which Sainz emerged as a worthy winner. Red Bull are likely unseated for this race alone but in such style it will stand out in the memory long after they have claimed both championships.

Results

1	**Carlos Sainz** Sp Ferrari	25pts	*1hr 46mins 37.418sec*
2	**Lando Norris** GB McLaren	18pts	*+0.812sec*
3	**Lewis Hamilton** GB Mercedes	16pts	*+1.269sec*
4	**Charles Leclerc** Mnc Ferrari	12pts	*+21.177sec*
5	**Max Verstappen** Neth Red Bull	10pts	*+21.441sec*
6	**Pierre Gasly** Fr Alpine	8pts	*+38.441sec*
7	**Oscar Piastri** Aus McLaren	6pts	*+41.479sec*
8	**Sergio Pérez** Mex Red Bull	4pts	*+54.534sec*
9	**Liam Lawson** NZ AlphaTauri	2pts	*+1:05.918sec*
10	**Kevin Magnussen** Den Haas	1pts	*+1:12.116sec*

Also finished
11 **Alexander Albon** Tha Williams +1:13.417
12 **Zhou Guanyu** Chn Alfa Romeo +1:23.649
13 **Nico Hülkenberg** Ger Haas +1:26.201
14 **Logan Sargeant** US Williams +1:26.889
15 **Fernando Alonso** Sp Aston Martin +1:27.603

Not classified
16 **George Russell** GB Mercedes 61 laps
17 **Valtteri Bottas** Fin Alfa Romeo 51 laps
18 **Esteban Ocon** Fr Alpine 42 laps
19 **Yuki Tsunoda** Jpn AlphaTauri 0 laps
20 **Lance Stroll** Can Aston Martin 0 laps

Championship standings
Drivers: 1 **Verstappen 374pts;** 2 **Pérez 223pts;** 3 **Hamilton 180pts;** 4 **Alonso 170pts;** 5 **Sainz 142pts;** 6 **Leclerc 123pts;** 7 **Russell 109pts;** 8 **Norris 97pts;** 9 **Stroll 47pts;** 10 **Gasly 45pts**

Constructors: 1 **Red Bull 597pts**; 2 **Mercedes 289pts**; 3 **Ferrari 265pts**; 4 **Aston Martin 217pts**; 5 **McLaren 139pts**;6 **Alpine 81pts**; 7 **Williams 21pts**; 8 **Haas 12pts**; 9 **Alfa Romeo 10pts**; 10 **AlphaTauri 5pts**

Sky Bet Championship

Piroe keeps his cool to douse Millwall fire

Millwall	**0**
Leeds	**3**
Piroe 15 77, Rutter 81	

John Brewin
The Den

A midday kick-off to keep temptation and tempers low, with Leeds's large travelling support slow to fill the top tier of the Den's North Stand. As is customary, those in the corner of the Dockers Stand spent much of their Sunday lunchtime at 45 degrees to the play, instead regaling their visitors with chants often less than friendly. Leeds fans reciprocated.

But as Millwall were kept at bay by an organised Leeds defence, the ire began to turn on the home team – even if the sourest bile was kept for the referee, Chris Kavanagh.

Leeds ended a miserable record in SE16, having not won on any of their previous six visits. Despite having hired a two-time promotion winner in Daniel Farke, little this season had previously gone to plan in the quest to bounce back. The transfer window has stripped down his squad but here, at last, were healthy signs those who remain have the stomach for the long fight ahead.

"You have to show steel and resilience," a delighted Farke said. "You have to give your life in these moments … stay cool to let your quality shine."

Millwall began with archetypal aggression, the muscular striker Tom Bradshaw leading from the front and Leeds's Luke Ayling and Pascal Struijk got in a tangle under such pressure. Illan Meslier's problems



▲ *Georginio Rutter, scorer of Leeds's third goal, holds off Allan Campbell*

under the lofted ball had clearly featured within Gary Rowett's team talk and an early mix up led to Bradshaw's presence panicking the Leeds goalkeeper before blushes were spared by Kavanagh's whistle.

When Ayling dropped to the floor in the penalty box soon after, Millwall fans screeched for handball, only for Kavanagh to wave play on. Perhaps in doing so he missed what looked a foul by Joël Piroe on Kevin Nisbet before Leeds broke to score a high-quality first goal. Piroe, supplied by interchanges between Georginio Rutter and Wilfried Gnonto, delivered a cool finish. "A poor goal," Rowett said.

Rutter, a club-record signing last season, looks far more comfortable at Championship level, and was key in both Piroe goals. The two-goal Dutchman, signed from Swansea in August, also looked someone to fire Leeds into the promotion picture.

Archie Gray, Elland Road royalty as grandson of Frank Gray and great-nephew of Eddie, looked to the manor born in anchoring midfield alongside Ethan Ampadu in upright, rangy style. "Archie has so many strengths," Farke said. "It was a big ask for a 17-year-old but today he was top class."

A promising opening win at Middlesbrough has given way to disquiet among Millwall supporters, and Rowett's experimental 3-4-1-2 formation did little to swing public opinion. Billy Mitchell, asked to screen the defence, found himself overworked and Farke could be disappointed Leeds did not have more of a half-time lead. His team had quietened both crowd and opposition, threatening skies echoing the quiet seethe among home fans.

"It felt a little harsh, not a fair reflection of the effort our players put in," Rowett said, though his team have scored just four goals in six Championship matches.

Leeds's problem last season – and this – has been their defensive record. Millwall, as expected, began the second half like a pack of hungry dogs, hurling themselves into the fray. Meslier saved low and well from Bradshaw. Millwall fans built a wall of ear-bleeding sound but Leeds, with admirable concentration, held their nerve. His attack blunted, Rowett made a triple substitution.

The visitors remained deadly. Crysencio Summerville was replaced by a fellow speed demon in Dan James before Piroe scored his second of what Farke called "amazing team goals" to begin emptying the home stands. Another overload saw James swing and miss from Rutter's pass and Piroe pick up the pieces from a yard out. Rutter completed the rout.

Millwall
3-1-4-2
Bialkowski; Cooper, Wallace, Leonard; Mitchell (Saville 84); Norton-Cuffy, Longman (Emakhu 73), Campbell (Esse 64), De Norre (Flemming 64); Bradshaw, Nisbet (Watmore 64)
Subs not used McNamara, Adom-Malaki, Harding

Leeds
4-2-3-1
Meslier; Ayling, Struijk, Rodon, Byram; Ampadu, Gray (Gruev 89); Summerville (James 69), Gnonto (Anthony 69), Piroe (Kamara 83); Rutter (Gelhardt 89)
Subs not used Darlow, Cresswell, Shackleton, Poveda

Referee Chris Kavanagh **Attendance** 17,909



Doubling Leeds' lead at the Den

Joël Piroe races away after scoring his second goal against Millwall
VARLEY PICTURE AGENCY/SHUTTERSTOCK

Premier League Saturday's talking points

Aston Villa 3 Crystal Palace 1

There's more than one way to skin a cat, as Unai Emery might have said, as he reflected on what helped Villa to turn the game against Palace. He displayed tactical adaptability throughout, going more offensive with Moussa Diaby and Leon Bailey wide and Jhon Durán off Ollie Watkins up front. The shape sometimes became 3-3-4 with Boubacar Kamara dropping deep as a third centre-back. Emery admitted that eventually he also needed three other factors to turn the game: the 15 extra second-half minutes the referee added; the "connectivity" with the impassioned Villa crowd; and finally the "heart" and "passion" that helped to inspire in his players. **Pete Lansley**

Fulham 1 Luton 0

Replacing a striker who scored 109 goals in 190 league matches was never going to be easy for Marco Silva; this narrow win showed the Fulham manager has yet to find the solution to life after Aleksandr Mitrovic. Raúl Jiménez has started all five league games so far and laboured in attack after playing for Mexico in midweek, with Carlos Vinícius providing the breakthrough off the bench. The Brazilian has started only 11 times since moving to west London but could be in contention for the trip to face Crystal Palace next weekend. "Competition between them is important," Silva said. "They have to compete and then it is up to me to decide who is the best for each game." **Ed Aarons**

Manchester Utd 1 Brighton 3

Pound for pound, Brighton are one of the greatest teams in English football history. In the past 18 months they have made a profit of more than £150m, and the starting XI that undressed United in their own fortress cost barely £20m. That is less than Chelsea paid for Graham Potter. They are defying logic and the culture of a league that burns money for a laugh. There have been shoestring success stories in the Premier League before, but never with a team that also play football from the future. It can't last forever, so we should all appreciate – OK, Crystal Palace fans are exempt from this – a uniquely charming story. It will make a cracking book one day, especially if they finally reveal their transfer algorithm. **Rob Smyth**

Newcastle 1 Brentford 0

Callum Wilson has scored 10 out of 10 penalties for Newcastle. "Pressure is for tyres," said the striker who has averaged a goal every two games in his St James' Park career. "Penalty taking is about practice, repetition and composure." His latest spot-kick enabled Eddie Howe's side to end a run of three defeats in a row by "winning ugly". Howe is now preparing for the club's first Champions League engagement in two decades, and is so keen to keep his tactical plans under wraps that his side will train on Tyneside rather than at San Siro today before flying out. **Louise Taylor**

Tottenham 2 Sheffield Utd 1

The game management of referees, Paul Heckingbottom insisted, is "appalling". The Sheffield United manager's specific problem was that his team want to play goal-kicks short and that Tottenham were setting up to prevent that, meaning Wes Foderingham, on a yellow, had to change his mind under time pressure. When he had challenged referees about the issue, he had been told to "play long". Which actually sounds … OK? How long should a team be given to adjust to the opposition shutting down passing options? No opposing player is allowed in the box so a very short pass from the keeper would give a defender 12 yards or so of space. If that isn't enough for him to initiate a move, maybe going long is the better option. **Jonathan Wilson**

West Ham 1 Manchester City 3

Big man, medium man. Nine-and-a-half to nine-plus. 9*/9-. Whatever the most accurate notation for the attacking partnership of Erling Haaland and Julián Álvarez, it feels like another successful piece of tactical reinvention. At West Ham Álvarez spent most of his 90 minutes just behind Haaland, while also running past him, or wide, or occasionally linking as twin central strikers. Part of the chemistry is that Álvarez is unusually good at the things Haaland doesn't do. He registered two assists, nine crosses, and 67 touches to Haaland's 22. Together they look exceptionally potent. Having successfully regeared the role of the Big Man, Guardiola appears to be doing the same for the classic twin-strike partnership. **Barney Ronay**

Wolves 1 Liverpool 3

Lots of positives but zero points. It is a notion that is becoming all too familiar for Gary O'Neil. Wolves were superb in the first half but faded in the second; the reality is they have three points from five games. Their coming trip to Luton already feels a significant game. Of this defeat O'Neil said: "These are not the ones we are judged on. We have a big game next week that we look to go and win." **Ben Fisher**



'Pressure is for tyres,' says the penalty-taking expert Callum Wilson



Raya debut
Arteta claims keeper swaps are the future

Andy Hunter

Mikel Arteta defended his decision to replace Aaron Ramsdale with David Raya for Arsenal's 1-0 win at Everton by predicting goalkeeping changes will become the norm, and said he "didn't have the courage" to substitute his keeper earlier in his managerial career at the Emirates.

Raya made his first appearance for Arsenal since joining on loan from Brentford in the summer and was a virtual spectator during the visitors' dominant display, capped by Leandro Trossard's second-half winner.

Arteta described himself as "exceptionally happy" with the performance but was irked by the focus on his goalkeeper selection. The Arsenal manager insisted both Ramsdale and Raya will be utilised this season, and he regrets not changing keeper on two unnamed occasions during the team's title challenge last season.

"It is the same rationale about why Fábio [Vieira] played here or Eddie [Nketiah] ahead of Gabriel Jesus," Arteta said. "I haven't had a single question on why Gabriel Jesus didn't start. He has won more trophies than anybody else, including me, in that dressing room.

"It is something that historically is not done. I cannot have two players in each position and not play them. David has tremendous qualities, like Aaron has, like Karl [Hein] has and we have to use them.

"I am a really young manager and I have only been in the job for three and a half years and I have few regrets in what we have done. One of them is that on two occasions I felt after 60 minutes and 85 minutes in two games in this period to change the keeper in that moment and I didn't do it.

"I didn't have the courage to do it but I am able to take [off] a winger or a striker and put a central defender back and go to a back five to hold that result. And we drew those games and I was so unhappy and someone is going to do it and maybe it [the reaction] will be: 'That is strange. Why?' Why not? Tell me why not. You have all the qualities in another goalkeeper and you want to do something to change the momentum, do it. That is my message."

Asked how he expected Ramsdale to react to losing his place as Arsenal's established first-choice goalkeeper, Arteta said: "The same way as Gabriel Jesus, the same as Kai Havertz, like [Takehiro] Tomiyasu. Exactly the same. We play with 11 players, not 10 plus one or sometimes with 10 or nine. Exactly the same."

Trossard gives resilient Arsenal glory at Goodison

Everton	**0**
Arsenal	**1**
Trossard 69	

	Everton	Arsenal
Possession	25%	75%
Shots on target	1	4
Total attempts	8	13

Andy Hunter
Goodison Park

Arsenal picked a good place to showcase the determination, belief and class required to produce another Premier League title challenge. Mikel Arteta's team were confronted by an obstinate Everton with zero ambition but one piercing move and stylish finish from the substitute Leandro Trossard sufficed for a first win at Goodison Park in almost six years.

It was another galling afternoon for Sean Dyche as his side succumbed to a third 1-0 defeat in three home matches this season. A struggling Everton have lost four of their opening five games for the first time since 2005-06 and the manager can be thankful that the wantaway owner Farhad Moshiri is unlikely to contemplate another change at the top.

Everton's performances do not warrant such talk, overall, but their woeful run of results would have undoubtedly tested Moshiri's patience back in the day when he had the resources and ambition to demand better.

Dyche seemed intent on a goalless draw from the outset. It was Arsenal's patience that was ultimately tested here and they passed as comfortably as the move that brought victory. From a short corner, too. Everton won the corresponding fixture from a more direct corner last season in Dyche's first game. The contrasting approach speaks volumes.

Arsenal had lost four and drawn one of their previous five visits to Goodison but there appears more substance to Arteta's team this season, and it was required to maintain the confidence and composure to eventually break Everton. There were boos after the final whistle for only four minutes of time being added on. The truth is, the hosts would not have threatened an equaliser no matter how long the referee, Simon Hooper, played.

"There is massive work to be done, as I said at the end of last season," the Everton manager said. "I thought we would have had more points on the board than we have because the performances deserve more but the table doesn't lie. You can't give the ball away as often as we did today. We were not effective enough."

There was a notable absence from the Arsenal side as Aaron Ramsdale was replaced in goal by David Raya for the first time since the Spaniard's loan move from Brentford. The debutant could not have wished for a gentler introduction, spending the entirety of the game as a virtual spectator as Everton sat back and allowed Arsenal to dominate possession.

Had Dyche calculated that his team could absorb pressure, close the gaps that Arsenal look to exploit and kill the spectacle, he was proven correct by a tedious first half. There was sympathy for Beto, Everton's recent signing from Udinese, who was completely isolated on his home debut by both the gameplan and his teammates' tendency to lose possession almost immediately.

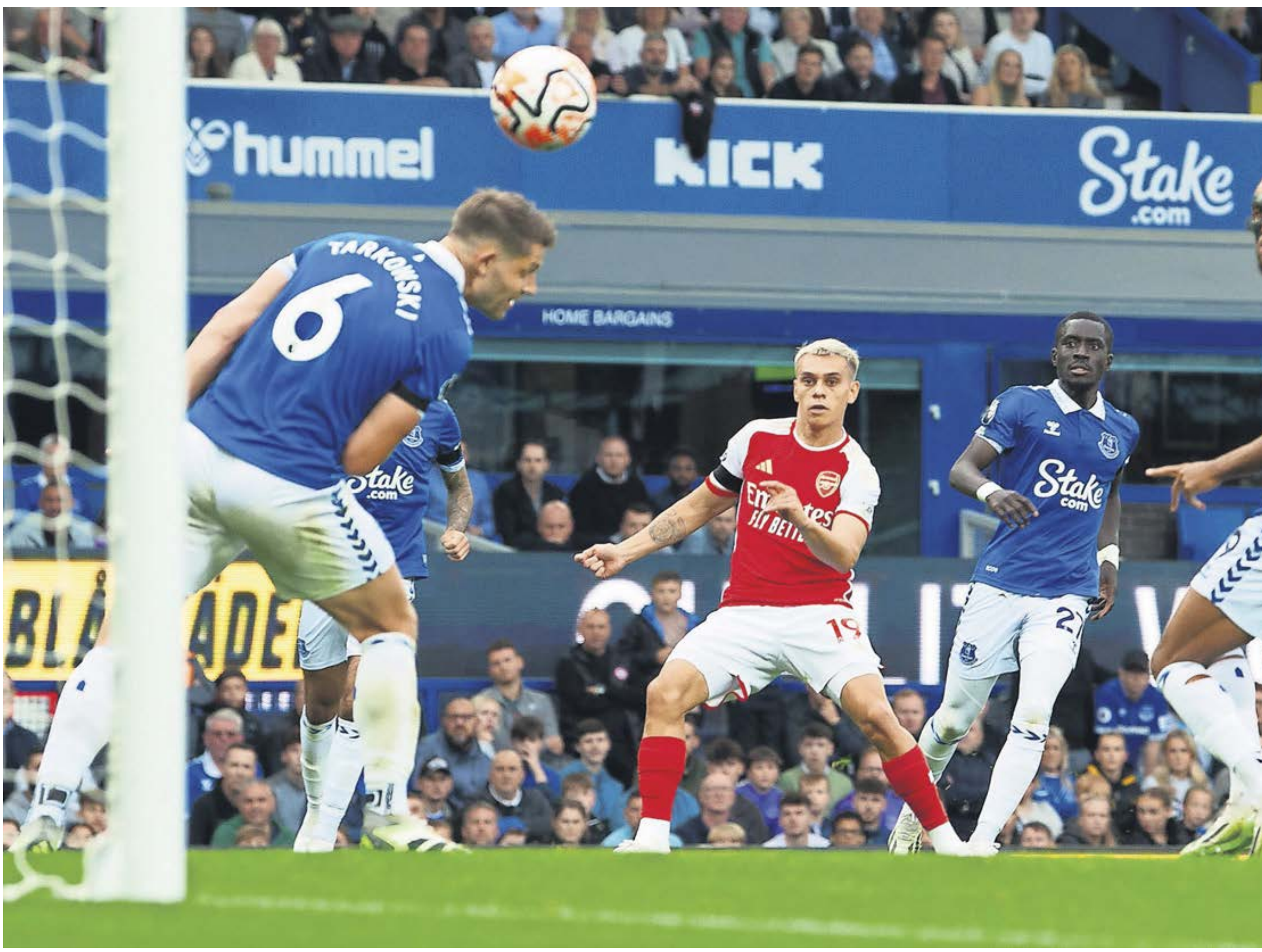
The only incident of note before the break was the VAR decision to disallow a strike from Gabriel Martinelli. It was the only time Arsenal managed to breach a well-organised Everton defence, but another VAR intervention that was open to interpretation.

A Beto challenge on Gabriel Magalhães sent the ball sailing towards the Everton goal, where Eddie Nketiah came from an offside position to collect. The impressive Fábio Vieira then released Martinelli behind the converted right-back Ashley Young and the Brazilian found the far corner with a pinpoint finish.

VAR, however, decided that Beto's touch was accidental and the celebrations inside Goodison switched from the away corner to the home sections as the breakthrough was ruled out for an offside against Nketiah. It was a reprieve for Everton and a relief for Amadou Onana, who had let Beto's ball run through to the otherwise anonymous Arsenal striker in the correct belief that he was off.

Arsenal were otherwise comfortably contained before the interval. Injury was added to insult for Martinelli when he hobbled off with a muscular problem moments later, to be replaced by Trossard, and the visitors spent the remainder of the half searching in vain for a way through the nine royal blue shirts encamped deep inside their own half. The interval brought welcome respite for the spectator and time for Arteta to work on a solution. His players delivered.

There was greater urgency, better movement and combinations from



the visitors as soon as the contest restarted. Everton players were suddenly dragged out of position as Arsenal overloads on both flanks brought an overdue threat to Jordan Pickford's clean sheet.

The England goalkeeper denied Martin Ødegaard after the Arsenal captain collected Ben White's incisive pass and cut inside Jarrad Branthwaite. The young Everton centre-half produced a fine clearance to prevent Trossard's dangerous low cross reaching Bukayo Saka, while the commanding James Tarkowski stopped Nketiah's drive into the box with a pristine tackle.

But the pressure was increasing, and finally told when Arsenal produced an exquisite move from a corner and Trossard applied the finishing touch it deserved. Vieira and Ødegaard combined to release Saka towards the right-hand byline. Saka pulled the ball back at pace towards the Belgium international who steered a first-time shot beyond Pickford and in off the far post. It was no more than Arsenal deserved, and the reward for a gruelling slog.

Everton
4-1-4-1
Pickford; Young (Patterson 87), Tarkowski, Branthwaite, Mykolenko; Onana; Danjuma, Gueye, Doucouré (Garner 80), McNeil (Chermiti 88); Beto (Calvert-Lewin 66)
Subs not used
Virginia, Keane, Godfrey, Dobbin, Onyango

Arsenal
4-3-3
Raya; White, Saliba, Gabriel, Zinchenko (Tomiyasu 80); Ødegaard, Rice, Vieira (Havertz 80); Saka, Nketiah (Jesus 66), Martinelli (Trossard 24)
Subs not used
Ramsdale, Smith Rowe, Kiwior, Jorginho, Nelson

Referee Simon Hooper **Attendance** 39,217



Gunners finally end Everton hoodoo

Leandro Trossard fires home Arsenal's winner to secure their first victory at Goodison in six years
PETER POWELL/EPA

Pochettino bemoans fortune as Chelsea are held at bay

Bournemouth	**0**
Chelsea	**0**

Possession
AFC Bournemouth 37% | Chelsea 63%

Shots on target
4 | 6

Total attempts
13 | 14

David Hytner
Vitality Stadium



Colwill unable to beat Neto

Levi Colwill tries to poke the ball home but Neto, the Bournemouth goalkeeper, is alert to the danger
GRAHAM HUNT/PROSPORTS/SHUTTERSTOCK

For Mauricio Pochettino, it was just not possible to sell this as a hard-luck story, although he would try. His Chelsea team dominated possession, they played on the front foot and they had plenty of possibilities in their approach work. But there remains something missing in what he is trying to create out of the chaos of the summer transfer window.

Quite simply, it is aggression and conviction – particularly in the final third, when the pressure is really on. It was hard to say that anybody in Chelsea's colours had played well – maybe apart from the stand-in captain, Conor Gallagher.

There were too many fives and sixes in the ratings, nobody who stamped his authority on proceedings and it came as no surprise that there were boos from the travelling fans upon the full-time whistle. When Ben Chilwell, on as a substitute, went over to them, he found himself in the crosshairs.

After four points from the opening four matches, Chelsea needed a win, something that represented a spark. Instead, there was only frustration. Raheem Sterling hit the underside of the crossbar with a free-kick at the start of the second half but there were not too many regrets in terms of glaring missed chances. Chelsea threatened yet only in a vague and increasingly empty sort of way.

Bournemouth will take the point, especially as they were in containment mode for the majority, although they did almost nick something late on as things became more open, Chelsea pushing with increasing desperation.

The substitute Justin Kluivert made a difference and Dominic Solanke had a couple of sightings against his former club, the first on 79 minutes when he rammed a low shot at goal. Robert Sánchez saved smartly with a foot.

What Pochettino wanted to highlight was the long list of injured and unavailable players; it was up to 12 here, Moisés Caicedo (knee), Marc Cucurella (illness) and Noni Madueke (muscular) the latest additions. Chelsea might have spent around a billion pounds on new signings under the ownership of Todd Boehly and Behdad Eghbali but nothing can insulate a manager from this volume of absentees. He had only three players on the bench who had kicked a ball for the club.

Pochettino's related point was that Chelsea's lavish spend had created a level of expectation that was impossible to live up to while he was, essentially, punching with one hand behind his back. Moreover, there were many young players from overseas who needed to be assimilated. And yet it still felt that he had enough on the pitch to get the better of Bournemouth, who are yet to win in the league under Andoni Iraola.

Everybody connected to Chelsea had stewed since the Nottingham Forest defeat before the international break and there will be more of the same this week before the visit of Aston Villa on Sunday.

"Attack, attack, attack," the Chelsea support chanted on 37 minutes, even though their team had done so and enjoyed moments. It spoke to general angst, which was encapsulated by Mykhailo Mudryk, who Pochettino had started on the left wing ahead of Chilwell.



◀ *Mauricio Pochettino watches on as his team draw a blank at Bournemouth*
JAVIER GARCIA/SHUTTERSTOCK

Mudryk had flickers and he could reflect that he set up two chances for Gallagher in the first half; the second being the clear one. When Mudryk's pass ran through to Gallagher and he turned Ryan Christie, he had to score. He shot too close to Neto.

In the debit column for the Ukrainian were a number of hesitant decisions, mainly involving when to release the ball; weak work out of possession and a yellow card for a late tackle. The hard truth was that he was uncomfortable to watch at times, although he was not alone. Nicolas Jackson laboured up front while Enzo Fernández was ineffective. He infuriated the away fans when he practically walked off when he was substituted.

Chelsea's buildup play showed promise at the outset. Gallagher drove with purpose while Sterling was quick and sharp. The end product, though, was absent.

Jackson hit the outside of the post with a low shot on 14 minutes but the big chance of the first half was at the other end. Bournemouth worked a quick free-kick and Pochettino felt his blood run hot when his players switched off. Christie crossed and there was Dango Ouattara stealing in at the far post. Sánchez made a fine block to deny him.

Sterling's free-kick bounced down off the crossbar, on to the line and away and, when Levi Colwill converted the rebound, he was flagged offside. Cole Palmer worked Neto, with another substitute, Ian Maatsen, seeing the follow-up blocked and at least Chelsea were not ambushed.

Bournemouth
4-2-3-1
Neto; Aarons, Zabarnyi, Kelly, Kerkez (Senesi 74); Cook, Billing; Tavernier (Sinisterra 73), Christie (Brooks 89), Ouattara (Kluivert 63); Solanke
Subs not used
Radu, Rothwell, Smith, Traoré, Semenyo

Chelsea
4-3-3
Sánchez; Gusto, Disasi, Silva, Colwill (Chilwell 80); Gallagher, Ugochukwu, Fernández (Maatsen 81); Sterling, Jackson, Mudryk (Palmer 63)
Subs not used
Petrovic, Bergström, Washington, Gilchrist, Matos, Stutter

Referee David Coote **Attendance** 10,421

Tennis *Davis Cup*

Britain edge thriller over France to qualify for final eight

Tumaini Carayol
AO Arena, Manchester

Under the immense pressure of a one-match shootout, Great Britain defeated France 2-1 to advance from the group stages and qualify for the Davis Cup quarter-finals. After earlier wins against Australia and Switzerland, the team finished the week unbeaten and top of their group.

The tie was dictated by the sparkling form of Evans, who sealed the first point by recovering from a set down to defeat Arthur Fils of France 3-6, 6-3, 6-4 before Norrie was edged out 7-6 (5), 3-6, 7-5 by Ugo Humbert.

Evans returned for the decisive doubles alongside Skupski and after a tough opening set, and after trailing Nicolas Mahut and Edouard Roger-Vasselin by triple match point deep in the final set on Evans's serve, somehow they recovered to close out an astounding 1-6, 7-6 (4), 7-6 (6) win.

Great Britain will now advance to the Davis Cup final-eight knockout stage, which takes place on 21-26 November in Malaga.

After a week of criticism about the format of the competition, with the ties between neutral nations attracting few spectators, this was an increasingly rare glimpse of the Davis Cup at its finest: two high-quality teams battling before a massive, partisan crowd. In Manchester's first Davis Cup tie in 29 years, the sold-out 13,000 audience is a record Davis Cup crowd in Great Britain.

One fascinating aspect of this format, though, is the unpredictability of team selections because of the final selections remaining open until an hour before play begins. In a demonstration of Great Britain's newfound depth, Smith changed his singles lineup three times in three days, this time opting for the highest-ranked players on the team.

Armed with his enormous serve and vicious, heavy forehand, Fils burst into the encounter playing free-flowing and destructive attacking tennis as he established a set and break lead. But Evans drew upon all of his experience to claw his way back in by refusing to miss, conducting up the crowd and drawing errors from Fils with his slice. From 6-3, 3-1 down, he reeled off seven games to lead by a break before serving well to hold off Fils.

Afterwards, Evans said his affinity for Davis Cup goes back to his childhood when various ties held in Birmingham were his first experiences of seeing professional tennis live. "All of those ties were in Birmingham and that was one of my first introductions to tennis," he said. "Obviously, Wimbledon, but that was nowhere near where I live. That was my first introduction. For me, that was the be all and end all, to play Davis Cup for your country, and it still is."

While Norrie was by far the highest-ranked singles player in action, he has struggled with his form since Wimbledon and he entered the court having lost six of his past eight matches. It was reflected in his performance as Norrie fought well but was outplayed by Humbert, who struck 20 aces, in the decisive moments. The difference between them was one poor service game from Norrie at 5-6 in the third set, ending with a double fault on match point.

"I guess it could have gone either way but he played better in the bigger moments and that's why he won," Norrie said.

Despite the significance of the final battle, Evans and Skupski struggled to find any rhythm in the opening set against a faultless French team. The pair dug deep in the second set, continually drawing on the raucous crowd as they narrowly survived the second set.

As the tension increased, it spilled out to the supporting benches. Evans had not been pleased with Fils's handshake after their singles match and during the third set the pair exchanged words, with Evans signalling to the French team to be quiet.

Both teams took care of their service games well in the final set until Evans and Skupski struggled under the weight of scoreboard pressure, trailing 0-40 and triple match point before Evans served incredibly well to escape.

Skupski then saved another match point at 5-6 before they closed out an incredible comeback in the final-set tiebreak.



▲ *Dan Evans and Neal Skupski in action during their riveting doubles match*
NATHAN STIRK/GETTY IMAGES/LTA

Stunning win leaves Australia in trouble



Josua Tuisova dives over the line to score Fiji's try in their first victory over the Wallabies since 1954
AURÉLIEN MORISSARD/AP

Pool C

Kuruvoli inspires Fiji to upset against Wallabies

Australia	**15**
Fiji	**22**

Andy Bull
Stade Geoffroy-Guichard

Fortunes change as quickly as the wind at the Rugby World Cup. Fiji, who needed to beat Australia to have a chance of making the quarter-finals, did exactly that and now face the easiest route through Pool C to the knockout rounds. They have a week off, then back-to-back matches against Georgia and Portugal.

Australia, on the other hand, face what their head coach, Eddie Jones, had called a "do-or-die" game of their own, against Wales in Lyon on Sunday. And as Jones said himself, they will need to improve if they are going to get through it.

Worse luck, they will be without their captain, Will Skelton, who finally withdrew injured from this match an hour before kick-off. Jones had wanted to give him every chance to play, but it was an open secret that he was never going to.

It was not just Fiji's first win against Australia in the World Cup, but their first of any sort at all since they beat them by two points at the SCG way back in 1954. Given that, the surprising thing was Australia never looked close to winning this one.

"We were sloppy," Jones said. He put it down to Fiji's physicality. In a move that will ring familiar with England fans, he apologised, and said he took "full responsibility" for the defeat. He had been booed, loudly, by the French crowd. "I probably deserved more after that," he said. "They should be throwing baguettes or croissants."

Fiji did not over-run Australia so much as they just shut them out of the match. They were sharper in their decision making, stronger in the set-pieces, and more disciplined around the field. Australia conceded 18 penalties, which allowed Fiji's young scrum-half Simione Kuruvoli to control the score with his pinpoint goal kicking. Kuruvoli, who had barely ever done the job in an adult match before now, was brilliant. Which was fortunate, since he sports the sort of glorious permed mullet you need to play very well to get away with.

It also meant that Fiji had room to cope with being outscored by Australia, two tries to one. Mark Nawaqanitawase got the first, after Richard Arnold ripped the ball free in a tackle on the Australian 22. He tossed it back to Nic White, who launched a 50-22 box kick downfield. Nawaqanitawase caught up with it, and took a quick throw over Semi Radradra, the only defender in the vicinity, to Samu Kerevi, who popped the scoring pass back to Nawaqanitawase as the cover closed in. It was smart play, but the Australians were lucky that the refereeing team did not stop to take a second look at Arnold's pass.

Fiji's try owed a lot to a mistake by Australia's young fly-half Carter Gordon, who leapt to catch a box kick but found he had misjudged it and let the ball bounce in front of him. Josua Tuisova was waiting, and made clean away with the rebound to score in the corner.

Australia scored a second when Suli Vunivalu broke off a maul, but there were not too many more chances. It felt as if the two teams were so familiar with all the other's tricks that it was hard for either to do anything that their opponent didn't know was coming.

There are strong links between the sides: seven of the Wallabies have Fijian heritage, two played for their rugby league team. The game felt like a contest between brothers, full of anger, but also laced with affection. The players smashed each other up and then hugged like they knew their mothers were watching.

The odd thing was that it was the Fijians, so often the underdogs, who played the role of the elder sibling. All the development work – especially, as Jones noted, the introduction of the Drua into Super Rugby – is paying off, and it feels like the balance of power in the Pacific is finally shifting.

"The time of people talking about us as a group of talented individuals has passed," the Fiji head coach, Simon Raiwalui, said. "Now they talk about us as a good team." He wants to see them join the Rugby Championship. "No reason why they can't," Jones noted.

Jones's team is a young Australian side, and will get better. They were at their best in the final quarter when, the head coach noted, they were fielding their youngest side in almost 30 years. But still, given the directions in which these two teams are heading, you wonder when, if ever, the Fijians will start as second favourites in this fixture again.

Australia
Donaldson; Nawaqanitawase, Petaia, Kerevi (Foketi 66), Koroibete; Gordon (Vunivalu 51), White (Fines-Leleiwasa 57); Bell (Schoupp 79), Porecki (Uelese 65 for 6min), Slipper (Nonggorr 57), Frost, Arnold (Philip 65), Hooper, McReight (Leota 59), Valetini
Tries Nawaqanitawase, Vunivalu **Con** Donaldson **Pen** Donaldson

Fiji
Droasese; Wainiqolo (Habosi 42), Nayacalevu, Tuisova (Botitu 69), Radradra; Tela, Kuruvoli (Lomani 50); Mawi (Ravai 51), Matavesi (Ikanivere 51), Tagi (Doge 59 for 8min), Nasilasila (Mayanavanua 66), Cirikidaveta, Tagitagivalu, Botia, Mata
Try Tuisova **Con** Kuruvoli **Pens** Kuruvoli 4, Lomani

Referee Andrew Brace (Ire) **Attendance** 41,294

Leaders of the pack

Fantastic four utilising shrewd gameplans to look unstoppable



Nick Evans

Nearly two weeks into the World Cup and the big four are looking ominous. The opening fixtures were full of potential upsets but France, New Zealand, South Africa and Ireland have all set their stalls out. The All Blacks have shown enough to demonstrate they will be competitive. France have got their wobble out of their system against Uruguay, and Ireland and South Africa have been mightily impressive. It's hard to see a winner coming from anywhere else at this stage.

I think it's the nature of World Cups. We've seen tier-two nations, who have to find a way to score points against superior teams, play with more ball movement and attacking flair but the teams at the top end of the game, those well equipped for finals footie, squeeze, strangle and suffocate. They squeeze through their set-piece play, strangle through their kicking game and suffocate with their defence. Those three attributes tend to go a long way towards winning a World Cup.

France kicked 44 times against New Zealand and I love how that goes unnoticed. The big teams kick a lot but it's more how they kick, when they kick and the accuracy with which they do it. Very rarely is it aimless, unless they're under pressure, it's all about playing in the right areas, limiting the amount of phases in parts of the field where they're susceptible to turnovers because the breakdown is so fiercely contested.

We've also seen that when teams make a lot of changes it's easier if you have a really simple gameplan. So for teams such as England and South Africa it's easier for guys to come in and execute that. For Ireland, France – who do kick but also play an intricate attacking game – and New Zealand, if you do make a lot of changes that cohesion element is really important.

We saw French rustiness between the combinations they had selected against Uruguay. Ireland were a little bit like that and then they grew into the game against Tonga and the machine kicked in. New Zealand also started off a bit rusty but they didn't change too many – Ardie Savea, Beauden Barrett, Sam Whitelock and Brodie Retallick were all there. For South Africa it's an easier gameplan to adhere to – there's no massive intricacy to defence, it's all based on power.

The conditions are also having an impact on matches. We saw Tonga's Vaea Fifita go to change what hand in which he was carrying the ball and it flew out like he was holding a bar of soap. On television you can be looking at it thinking the conditions look brilliant but you can see these guys are drenched in sweat and the physios are running on with the sticky spray for the players' hands so the ball sticks a bit more when you go into contact.

It does make it harder to play with the ball in hand and sometimes the best thing to do is be really comfortable without the ball, especially in the middle of the field and then squeeze when you do get into attacking areas. It is a factor and the teams that can operate more comfortably under those conditions will have an advantage. It would be interesting to know how teams are preparing for it, whether they're using wet balls. Often at Harlequins we'll have buckets of soapy water to make it harder to hold on to the ball in contact.

The performances of Uruguay and Portugal have also shown the development of the tier-two nations. Romania have struggled but Uruguay and Portugal are benefiting from being exposed to competition. The improvements in coaching setups you see around the world now, the funding that has been given to those teams, it all makes a difference. The athletes are different now. I go back to 2007 and we put more than a hundred points on Portugal but the team I saw the other day looked completely different. You're seeing a better quality of athlete, better coaches and some of those guys are playing in the Premiership, Top 14 or Japan.

The other trend we're seeing in the opening fixtures is how the television match officials are more recognisable than the coaches because we're seeing so much of them in the TV pictures. What's important to keep in mind is that the decisions that they're making are the correct ones but it's almost got to the same point in football with VAR – a try is scored and you're almost waiting for the whistle to go. Do we celebrate now? How many tries have been chalked off? I'm not saying they are wrong decisions but often we're waiting two or three minutes to get an outcome.

We knew the bunker would have an impact. The decisions for the most part are correct around try-scoring, that's easier – but around clean-outs and high tackles, the word that comes to mind is consistency. We're seeing one team get a red card, one that's not even checked, or one that doesn't get upgraded from yellow.

Defences can take matters into their own hands. For the most part it's the adjuster – the second tackler – because the first tackle will go low and then the second comes in and looks to target the ball. If the tackler is falling we start to see arms slipping up to shoulders or necks or heads. We've seen how it can hurt teams, New Zealand are going to really miss Ethan de Groot after his red card, and there's no doubt it's going to have an impact on the knockout stages.



Beauden Barrett remained in the All Blacks' team

Gatland calls for World Cup expansion to grow game

Andrew Baldock

Warren Gatland believes that a 24-team Rugby World Cup would help to grow the game.

An expansion from the current 20 countries for Australia 2027 or the US four years later has been mooted in some quarters. The current tournament in France has already been highlighted by outstanding performances from lower-ranked teams.

Uruguay pushed France for large parts of a gripping Pool A match before losing 27-12, while Portugal gave Gatland's Wales plenty to ponder and Chile had their moments in games against Japan and Samoa.

"I thought Uruguay were outstanding – it is brilliant for the game," the Wales head coach said after a 28-8 victory against Portugal in Nice.

"Portugal were fantastic and showed a lot of enterprise, and you could argue that Uruguay were pretty unlucky in a few situations [against France].

"It is important that we continue, from a rugby perspective, to help develop these tier-two nations. There might be a situation where we can increase the number of teams in the World Cup to 24, and that would continue to help grow the game.

"That is an important aspect. You don't want top-tier nations dominating, you want upsets – as long as I am not a part of it. I think it's a real positive going forward to see teams competing and pushing other teams close."

Portugal returned to the World Cup stage after a 16-year absence when they faced Wales at Stade de Nice. They qualified for the tournament by winning a repechage competition in Dubai, and the full-back Nuno Sousa Guedes has no doubt that regular exposure against leading nations is what Portugal require.

Guedes and company made life tough for Wales, trailing by just four points approaching half-time, while they did not concede a bonus-point try until the game's closing seconds.

"If we could keep playing games like this, it is the main thing," Guedes said. "For the kids back home who are starting out, it would be a very good step. In Portugal, it is always soccer. We want to show the world that it is not only soccer. We have the numbers in terms of rugby and some good kids coming up. I think we have the capacity." **PA Media**



▲ *Warren Gatland was impressed by 'fantastic' Portugal against Wales*

Reinach and Mapimpi lead South Africa to crushing win

South Africa	**76**
Romania	**0**

Reuben Rosso-Powell

Cobus Reinach and Makazole Mapimpi each grabbed a hat-trick of tries as South Africa crushed Romania in their second Pool B game of the Rugby World Cup. The world champions wasted no time clinching their bonus point, with four tries inside the opening 12 minutes.

The scrum-half Reinach claimed an early double before the wing Mapimpi, with his first, and Damian Willemse also crossed. Reinach sealed a deserved hat-trick off the back of a scrum and Willemse calmly converted as the Springboks carved out a 33-0 half-time lead.

South Africa started where they left off in the second half when the hooker Deon Fourie claimed their sixth try in the 43rd minute. Romania's discipline began to waiver and after 54 minutes they gave away a penalty try. Grant Williams weighed in with two tries before Mapimpi completed his hat-trick.

South Africa led 71-0 with 13 minutes left and on 73 minutes Willie le Roux scored their final try of a comprehensive victory to add to their opening win against Scotland.

The Springboks, meanwhile, have added the fly-half Handrè Pollard to their squad before their Pool B match against with Ireland next weekend.



▲ *Damian Willemse scores the fourth of South Africa's 12 tries*

Pollard, who helped South Africa win the competition in 2019, was left out of Jacques Nienaber's initial 33-man squad with a calf injury. The 29-year-old returned to action on Friday as a replacement in Leicester's 18-14 Premiership win at Sale. He is called up as replacement for the injured hooker Malcolm Marx, who has been ruled out of the remainder of the tournament with a knee issue.

In a statement Nienaber, the head coach, said of Pollard: "He's been working hard to return to full fitness and we are pleased he now has some game time under his belt and this will allow him to slot back into the team.

"We'll work closely with him in the next week to get him back into the full swing of things." **PA Media**



England and Lawes hold off Japan after head start

England	**34**
Japan	**12**

Robert Kitson
Stade de Nice



England are taking the concept of 'winning ugly' to a whole new level at this World Cup. If there are no marks for artistic impression at major tournaments this was a game which could only be described as 'entertainment' by serious masochists and leather boot manufacturers. Steve Borthwick's side are now effectively into the last eight but the boos which rang around the stadium as the ball was endlessly booted skywards summed up the general mood.

Yes, England will point to the scoreboard which now reads two wins from two games as vindication of their kick-obsessed tactics but anyone who hails the first 65 minutes of this game as a step forward for perceptions of English rugby is kidding themselves. It was fitting in a way that their pivotal second-half try was a comedy of errors, the ball ricocheting off Will Stuart's arm and Joe Marler's head before failing into the path of Courtney Lawes with Japan having stopped playing in anticipation of a knock-on being called.

They did at least perk up towards the end but until Freddie Steward latched on to a well-judged George Ford cross-kick in the 66th minute to score his side's third try it had been a distinctly tough watch. England's tenacity at the breakdown and their scramble defence deserves recognition but compared with Fiji, Portugal and Uruguay, all of whom have made positive impacts in recent days in terms of how they have sought to play the game, it was often like watching a different sport.

It was just as well, then, that they finally managed to cross the tryline four times, with Lewis Ludlam also being rewarded for a typically character-laden display with a first-half score and Joe Marchant rounding things off with a try at the death. George Ford was again heavily involved and contributed 10 points with three conversions and two penalties but, all in all, it was a strictly relative collective achievement.

Japan will also not look back at the tape with much pleasure, particularly their recurring inability to hang on to a greasy ball. They could yet qualify for the quarter-finals but, on this evidence, the chances of them beating both Samoa and Argentina are remote.

Having watched Fiji strike a glorious blow for rugby's so-called underdogs, few expected Japan to back up their own famous World Cup wins over South Africa in 2015 and Ireland and Scotland four years ago. Captain Kazuki Himeno was back in a powerful back-row alongside Michael Leitch and Pieter Labuschagne, with the proven threat of Kotaro Matsushima lurking on the right-wing.

They could only hope England would prove as ruinously divided as the Rugby Football Union currently seems to be. A significant number of council members have now lost faith in the RFU's chairman – Tom Ilube – and the chief executive Bill Sweeney and, regardless of how far England progress at this tournament, are increasingly concerned about the union's governance and financial outlook.

Discord in the boardroom, though,



▲ *Officials discusses the legitimacy of Joe Marler heading the ball in the buildup to Courtney Lawes' try*

Heading towards knockout stage



Courtney Lawes scores a try for England after an unlikely assist from Joe Marler's head
NEAL SIMPSON/SHUTTERSTOCK

▼ *England's Ben Earl is taken down by Pieter Labuschagne*
PAVEL GOLOVKIN/AP





▲ *Japan's Jack Cornelsen attempts to charge down a kick from Alex Mitchell on a night when England made it two wins out of two in the pool stage*
DANIEL COLE/AP

did not stop England responding well in adversity against Argentina and here was an obvious chance to continue that momentum. It had been breezy on the Cote d'Azur during the day, so much so some restaurants in the old town folded away their sun umbrellas as a precaution. In the steep-sided stadium, though, it was humid, warm and still, the sort of conditions which make for a slippery ball and sweaty fingers.

It certainly looked to be a problem for both sides, not least the full-back Semisi Masirewa who contrived to knock on an overhit Elliot Daly kick in his in-goal area and placed his pack under instant, entirely avoidable pressure. It cost a swift three points via Ford's right boot and did not bode at all well from a Japanese perspective.

When Masirewa then hobbled off, his right leg having buckled following a slight push by Ben Earl, it completed one of the less glorious cameos of this tournament to date. Japan needed to start playing at the other end and, when they finally did so, strung together some nice attacking phases which could easily have yielded more than just a penalty for Rikiya Matsuda.

Matsuda also created momentary panic in English ranks when he charged down an attempted Ford clearance, another example of Japan having done their homework. Sticking to an ultra-prescriptive gameplan is all very well but it means the opposition tend to know exactly what is coming.

The Brave Blossoms were also causing problems with little chips over the top and England suddenly found themselves 6-3 behind courtesy of a second Matsuda penalty. They were suitably grateful when another Japan fumble close to their own line presented the ball to Ollie Chessum and supplied the platform for Ludlam to force his way over with 24 minutes gone. Other than that, it was a pretty desperate first half for any neutrals watching. Kicking the ball intelligently and well is a key part of the game. Kicking incessantly without contemplating any other possibilities is the mark of a team with seriously limited horizons. In terms of enriching the soul, a wet week spent sleeping out in an abandoned gasworks would be marginally more uplifting.

When Japan fought their way back to just 13-12 down after 54 minutes through Matsuda's fourth penalty it even seemed faintly possible that England would pay the price for their conservatism. Just as well, then, that Stuart's arm and Marler's cranium manufactured something out of nothing and gave the scoreline a slightly healthier look. If you missed it, though, it's probably better for your blood pressure not to seek out the "highlights".

Jonathan Liew
Analysis of England's Pool D display at Stade de Nice
theguardian.com/sport

England
Steward; May, Marchant, Tuilagi, Daly; Ford, Mitchell (Youngs 59); Marler (Genge 59), George (Dan 74), Sinckler (Stuart 51), Itoje, Chessum, Lawes (Martin 63), Earl, Ludlam (Vunipola 51)
Tries Ludlam, Lawes, Steward, Marchant
Cons Ford (4) **Pens** Ford (2)

Japan
Masirewa (Lemeki 7); Matsushima, Osada, Nakamura, Naikabula (Riley 50); Matsuda, Nagare (Saito 65); Inagaki (Millar 50), Horie (Sakate 62), Koo (Valu 41), Cornelsen, Fakatava (Dearns 62), Leitch, Labuschagne (Shimokawa 74), Himeno
Pens Matsuda (4)

Referee Nika Amashukeli (Geo)

The matches

Live on ITV1 unless stated

Pool A	P	W	D	L	F	A	B	Pts
France	2	2	0	0	54	25	0	8
New Zealand	2	1	0	1	84	30	1	5
Italy	1	1	0	0	52	8	1	5
Uruguay	1	0	0	1	12	27	0	0
Namibia	2	0	0	2	11	123	0	0

8 Sep France 27 New Zealand 13
9 Sep Italy 52 Namibia 8
14 Sep France 27 Uruguay 12
15 Sep New Zealand 71 Namibia 3
20 Sep Italy v Uruguay, Nice (4.45pm, ITV4)
21 Sep France v Namibia, Marseille (8pm, ITV4)
27 Sep Uruguay v Namibia, Lyon (4.45pm, ITV4)
29 Sep New Zealand v Italy, Lyon (8pm)
5 Oct New Zealand v Uruguay, Lyon (8pm, ITV4)
6 Oct France v Italy, Lyon (8pm)

Pool B	P	W	D	L	F	A	B	Pts
Ireland	2	2	0	0	141	24	2	10
South Africa	2	2	0	0	94	3	1	9
Scotland	1	0	0	1	3	18	0	0
Tonga	1	0	0	0	16	59	0	0
Romania	2	0	0	2	8	158	0	0

9 Sep Ireland 82 Romania 8
10 Sep South Africa 18 Scotland 3
16 Sep Ireland 59 Tonga 16
Yesterday South Africa 76 Romania 0
23 Sep South Africa v Ireland, Paris (8pm)
24 Sep Scotland v Tonga, Nice (4.45pm)
30 Sep Scotland v Romania, Lille (8pm)
1 Oct South Africa v Tonga, Marseille (8pm)
7 Oct Ireland v Scotland, Paris (8pm)
8 Oct Tonga v Romania, Lille (4.45pm, ITV3)

Pool C	P	W	D	L	F	A	B	Pts
Wales	2	2	0	0	60	34	2	10
Fiji	2	1	0	1	48	47	2	6
Australia	2	1	0	1	50	37	2	6
Georgia	1	0	0	1	15	35	0	0
Portugal	1	0	0	1	8	28	0	0

9 Sep Australia 35 Georgia 15
10 Sep Wales 32 Fiji 26
16 Sep Wales 28 Portugal 8
Yesterday Australia 15 Fiji 22
23 Sep Georgia v Portugal, Toulouse (1pm)
24 Sep Wales v Australia, Lyon (8pm)
30 Sep Fiji v Georgia, Bordeaux (4.45pm)
1 Oct Australia v Portugal, Saint-Étienne (4.45pm, ITV4)
7 Oct Wales v Georgia, Nantes (2pm)
8 Oct Fiji v Portugal, Toulouse (8pm, ITV4)

Pool D	P	W	D	L	F	A	B	Pts
England	2	2	0	0	61	22	1	9
Samoa	1	1	0	0	43	10	1	5
Japan	2	1	0	1	54	46	1	5
Argentina	1	0	0	1	10	27	0	0
Chile	2	0	0	2	22	85	0	0

9 Sep England 27 Argentina 10
10 Sep Japan 42 Chile 12
16 Sep Samoa 43 Chile 10
Yesterday England 34 Japan 12
22 Sep Argentina v Samoa, Saint-Étienne (4.45pm)
23 Sep England v Chile, Lille (4.45pm)
28 Sep Japan v Samoa, Toulouse (8pm, ITV4)
30 Sep Argentina v Chile, Nantes (2pm)
7 Oct England v Samoa, Lille (4.45pm)
8 Oct Japan v Argentina, Nantes (noon)

Quarter-finals

Sat 14 Oct Winner Pool C v Runner-up Pool D
Marseille (4pm)
Winner Pool B v Runner-up Pool A
Paris (8pm)
Sun 15 Oct Winner Pool D v Runner-up Pool C
Marseille (4pm)
Winner Pool A v Runner-up Pool B
Paris (8pm)

Semi-finals

Fri 20 Oct Winner QF1 v Winner QF2
Paris (8pm)
Sat 21 Oct Winner QF3 v Winner QF4
Paris (8pm)

Third-place playoff

Fri 27 Oct Loser SF1 v Loser SF2
Paris (8pm)

Final

Sat 28 Oct Winner SF1 v Winner SF2
Paris (8pm)

Epic victory
Brilliant Britain edge thriller against France in Davis Cup

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Keeper swap
Arteta defends leaving out Ramsdale for Everton win

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Sport



Rugby World Cup 2023

England	Japan
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Late flourish
Steward and Marchant tries see off Japan

▲*England full-back Freddie Steward is mobbed by his teammates after his second-half try in Nice*
DAVID DAVIES/PA WIRE

Roy rejected as England call up Brook for title defence

Simon Burnton

Jason Roy has been dropped from England's World Cup squad after failing to play any of the four recent one-day internationals against New Zealand because of recurring back spasms, with Harry Brook - despite averaging just 12.33 in three innings in that series - drafted in to replace him.

Brook has exploded on to the international scene over the past 18 months but has played only six ODIs - the first of them in January - while Roy has been a mainstay of England's 50-overs team for more than eight years.

Since breaking into the side in 2015 he has played 116 of his country's 139 ODIs, but for the second time in just over a year has lost his place in an England squad at the worst possible time: in the run-up to a World Cup.

Last September Roy was dropped from the T20 squad after a dismal run of form in that format; England went on to win that World Cup in Australia last November. "It was incredibly tough to take," Roy said this month of that experience. "But I feel like I've had a pretty good year since."

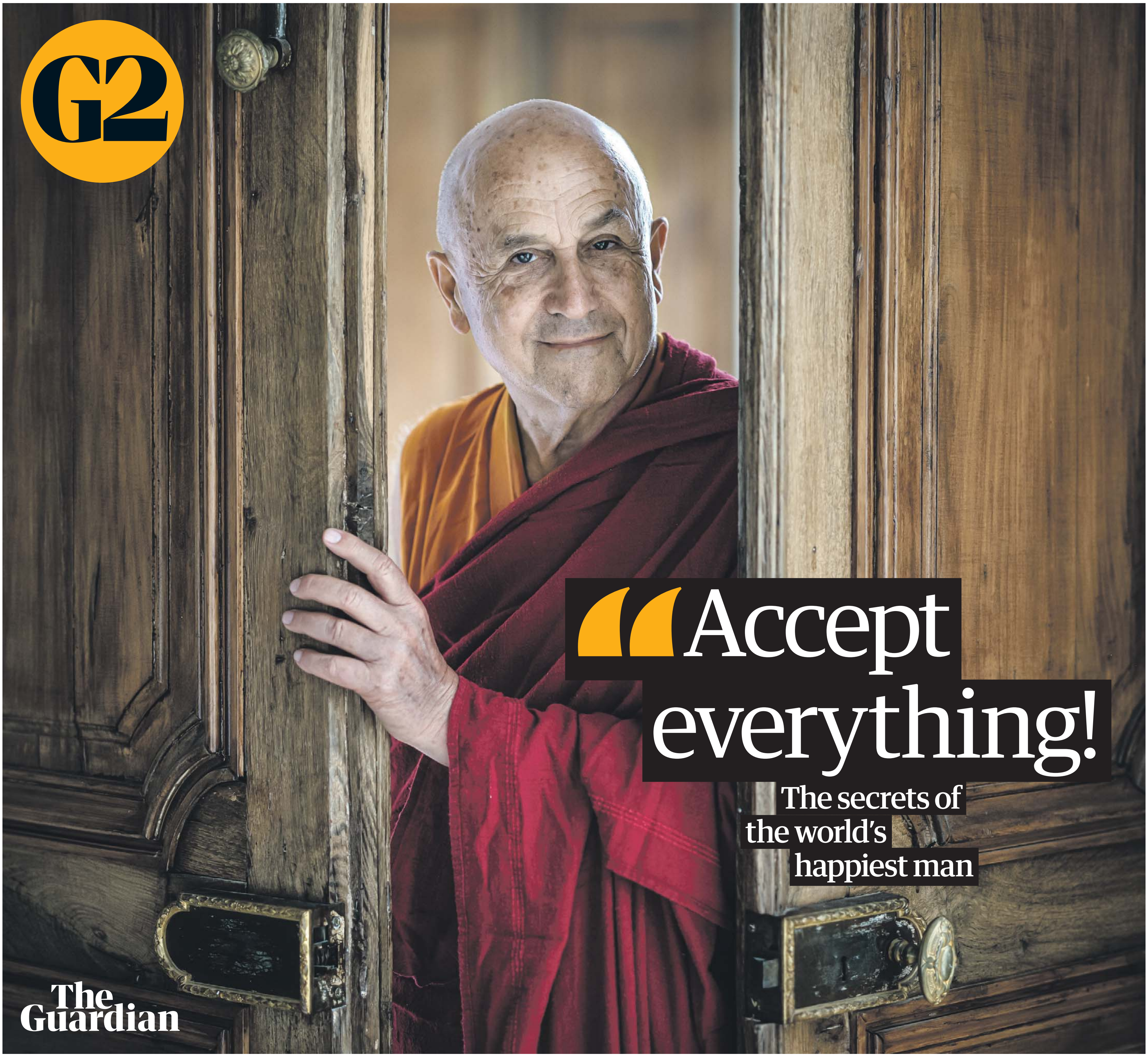
Though he has struggled less in ODIs - he has scored two centuries in six innings this year, albeit with three single-digit scores - Roy's own fitness issues, the success of Dawid Malan in Roy's traditional position of opener during the series against New Zealand, and the emergence of Brook have forced him out of the reckoning.

The squad is otherwise the same as that named last month. "We have selected a squad we are confident can go to India and win the World Cup," said Luke Wright, England men's national selector. "The strength of the group has meant we have had to make some tough decisions on world-class players with Jason Roy missing out and Harry Brook coming in."



Jason Roy has missed out on a World Cup for the second time in a year

G2



“Accept everything!

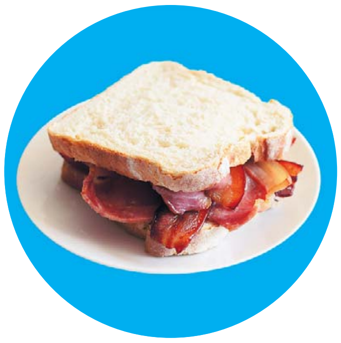
The secrets of the world’s happiest man

The Guardian

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Life & Arts

Bring home the bacon
Can you build a better buttie?
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Joni Mitchell and me
Henry Diltz on his best photos
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A new start after 60



My husband's dementia made me stop hiding I was gay

Mike Parish was 19 and on the escalator at Victoria station in London when a tiny sticker caught his eye. As he read the words "Do you think you're gay?", the escalator whisked him downwards. He had to go back up and then down again to copy the phone number, which was for an organisation called Icebreakers. This act proved a turning point for Parish, who had increasingly felt at odds with how he fitted into the world.

It took weeks to brave dialling the number. "I think I'm gay, but I don't want to wear a dress and carry a handbag," he told the man at the end of the line; it was 1974 and now, aged 68, Parish looks back and is saddened by his own lack of knowledge. The man laughed and invited him to a tea party the following Sunday. Sitting on the sofa there, he reached for his cup of tea at the same time as a young man on the other end of the couch. They smiled at each other. "I fell for Tom in that moment," Parish says.

He and Tom were together for more than 40 years, until Tom died of dementia last year. Now, Parish has launched a community interest charity to support LGBTQ+ people with dementia and their carers.

"The trouble is, for a lot of people who, like me, are approaching 70 or older, the negative experiences they had when they were younger are still there. It's like going through some sort of crisis – you never forget it," Parish says.

For years, he hid his sexuality at work; he spent four decades in the fire brigade, mostly as an emergency planning officer. One year, terrified that he had slipped up, he opened all the Christmas cards he had written to check that he hadn't added Tom's name.

Although they had a civil partnership in 2006, in public the pair were guarded and avoided holding hands. "Too frightened," Parish says. "People got attacked in the street because they were gay. This happened so much in our early lives … The trouble is when someone says: 'Look, a couple of queers', you don't know if the next thing will be a brick or a punch."

But Tom's dementia, and Parish's duty of care, led them into new territory. A few years ago, they would go for coffee in Bath. "And I would hold his hand," Parish says. "He would fall over if I didn't." Sometimes passersby said unpleasant things, but Parish called them out, once challenging a builder: "Yes, we are together. He's my husband."

Parish says: "I spent a lifetime frightened, but as Tom got ill, my fear of doing anything publicly evaporated. I have no fear any more. It's a good place to be."

As an increasing number of social workers and care workers visited their home, Parish learned to advocate, challenge and question. The case of Ted Brown, whose partner experienced homophobic abuse in a care home, weighed on him. Online research suggested the problem was widespread. So, at 59, Parish retired to care for Tom at home. But sometimes people would see him feeding Tom and remark: "It's wonderful how you look after your father."

"I became a carer's voice," Parish says. "I wanted to say: 'Look, when you go out as a social services officer and there are two men, or two women, don't assume." He began to give talks to local organisations. When he contacted Deep, the UK network of dementia voices, and asked if there were any LGBTQ+ dementia groups, he was told: "Not really. Why don't you start one?"

Last year, with a few like-minded people he has met along the way, Parish co-founded the LGBTQ+ Dementia Advisory Group, to "improve the lives of LGBTQ+ people who are affected by dementia".

Parish knows that he may need help himself one day, but he is mostly spurred on by the memory of Tom. "I gained some kind of confidence from somewhere, some kind of drive," he muses. "And the inspiration for that came from Tom." He understands the meaning, he says, of the words: I'll do anything for the person I love.

"When you've got that level of freedom from the things that would normally hold you back, nothing can get in your way."

Paula Cocozza

Tell us: has your life taken a new direction after the age of 60? Fill in the online form at theguardian.com/new-start-after-60

PHOTOGRAPH: SAM FROST/THE GUARDIAN

Emma Beddington



I've given up trying to make sense of anything these days

So what's your theory about the Magdeburg sandwich thrower? Just in case you haven't yet encountered this mystery for the ages, a phantom chucker of tinfoil-wrapped sausage, cheese and salami *frühstücksbrötchen* (breakfast rolls, a German thing presumably, and I can't say I hate it) has been, well … not terrorising, but perhaps intriguing or mildly irritating residents along the B184 in the Saxony-Anhalt region of Germany.

A picture in the newspaper of local football club manager Holger Becker down on one knee, holding out some crumpled foil in which a worthy-looking brown crust is visible, as if proposing to the viewer with it, is a sublime addition to the canon of angry people in local news pointing at stuff.

The search for meaning has been powerful and poignant. The sandwiches – some bitten, some untouched – are thrown only on weekdays before 6am. Might they represent a cathartic gesture of revolt against capitalism, the grind, or gluten? Are they expressing anger, or rejecting German values?

Psychologist Anke Precht told a newspaper that the sandwich fly-tipping could be because of a "missed moment" for candour in a relationship, which has resulted in a need for ongoing duplicity. Perhaps, the theory goes, the thrower doesn't like breakfast *bröte* but mistakenly gave their partner the impression they do, and having left it too late to tell the truth has hit on this solution? This stuff happens. I told my future husband I liked clubbing on our first date to try to sound edgy, then had to go clubbing repeatedly for a miserable year, both of us feigning enjoyment. But why the drama, when chucking it in the office bin would do the job? No, there's a defiant, performative element here – a desire to be unmasked.

> "Has a Chinese zoo replaced its sun bear with a person in a bear suit?

But is "why" the right question? Searching for meaning and constructing a narrative around events is what makes us human, sure, but it's part Fortean Times, part-Ripley's Believe It Or Not! out there right now. In the last week, I've read about a Florida man trying to cross the Atlantic in a hamster wheel, a dead nun who has remained perfectly preserved for four years in Missouri, and Mexico senate hearings into extraterrestrial life examining "ancient aliens" that look like something you could buy from a head shop in Camden Market in London.

We will wear ourselves out trying to understand it all: is the mystery totem pole on the Kent coast a pagan symbol or an art project, or is it invoking divine protection for nesting birds? Has a Chinese zoo replaced its sun bear with a person in a bear suit to draw curious crowds? Is the mysterious "skin-like" golden orb found in the sea floor off Alaska an alien pod?

And that's only the stuff that doesn't matter (I'll regret saying that when orb flu comes for me next year). What about the things that are bogglingly weird but important? The former US president keeping classified documents in his (hideous) shower room. Liz Truss writing a book to "share the lessons" from her premiership. Billionaires threatening to cage fight each other or biohacking themselves to eternal life when Earth might be incompatible with all human life pretty soon. Matt Hancock – OK, he doesn't matter but I can't stop myself whispering "why?" at each fresh full-body cringe that marks his post-politics "career" (couldn't we put him on a hamster wheel in the Atlantic? I bet he'd agree if we tell him Channel 5 is filming it).

Increasingly, I think coping with life is a matter of shedding the impulse to seek explanations. We've accepted (sort of) that we live in a post-truth age; it is probably time to accept we are post-meaning, too. Let last week's cautionary tale of Virgin Media reporting that a mysterious crater on a Dublin beach might be "the aftermath of a cosmic event" when it was dug by "some fellas … with a kid's shovel" guide you.

What does it all mean? Nothing. Save your energy. You'll need it to trap squirrels and fight the sewer people soon enough. Time to embrace the age of the inexplicable.

Others may find it creepy, but I love spider season

Before I left X (Twitter's branding change achieved what years of time-wasting couldn't), there was a phase when people posted their most cancellable opinions. As September cools, I am realising that mine might be that I love spider season. Social media is full of hysterical teens with great makeup threatening to set fire to stuff, leave the country or never sleep again as their homes become "the spider-verse", but that first faceful of web in the garden in autumn is my pumpkin spice latte moment. Webs glistening with dew in the dawn sun, industrious architects crouched at their heart, are as Instagrammable for me as russet and golden leaves.

It is not just webs; I think spiders are really great. I love that moment, as we are watching TV in the early autumn, when the first gerbil-sized specimen scuttles across the rug in front of me, chunky and heavy enough to startle the dog. I love the way there is always one squatting in the shower, delivering a morning wake-up more effective than a ristretto. I hurt my neck recently, so have spent lots of time lying on the floor watching scuttlefest 2023, and the spectacle is even more majestic down at pedipalp (that's the feely bit on the front of the spider) level.

This year, I even have my own spider motivational coach in the office. She arrived last week and is a constant flurry of web-building, fly-wrapping, fly-eating and general darting around. Her industry always shames me back to work, like a rubbish Robert the Bruce.

Few share the love; I indignantly delete emails that offer "hacks" to banish them. But unless it arrived here on your bananas, no UK spider will kill you, and they will be gone soon enough – who knows where, to do who knows what, have how many babies? Enjoy that thought.





The pet I'll never forget
Miles the cat

My journey with Miles started, practically, in an Uber returning from the Cats Protection centre in north London, his huge, golden eyes peering out from his bulky carrier.

But the road to Miles and I ending up together began much earlier. He was a successor to two abandoned kittens I had found at the bottom of my garden and taken in. I raised them for three weeks, syringe-feeding them with specially formulated milk. A friend then adopted them (they are thriving).

But I missed the kittens and thought it time for a permanent feline friend. I had grown up with two cats, Pepsi and Tess. I loved them dearly, and they died, adored, at 18 years old, their long lives filled with … well, mostly sleeping and eating.

Miles had been the longest-standing resident at the rescue centre, his intense shyness preventing visitors from forming a bond with him. Once home, his timidity continued. He ran under the cooker and didn't come out for days; then he ran under the desk and didn't come out for weeks. He crept from his hiding place in the night to eat and drink. "I am living with a ghost cat," I told a friend.

> **I found him outside, unable to use his hind legs**

But gradually I earned his trust (mostly through treat-based tactics), and then he never left my side. Whenever singledom made it possible, he slept under the crook of my arm in bed, or with his head on the adjacent pillow, his warm breath on my cheek.

One evening, I stayed at a friend's, putting food and water out, and leaving Miles to roam overnight, as he often would, with his friend Merlin, a neighbourhood cat. When I returned, he didn't come bolting through the cat flap as was customary and, as darkness fell, I began to worry.

I found Miles outside, unable to use his hind legs. He was soaking wet, but he wasn't bleeding. My neighbour drove me to a 24-hour vet. The verdict was horrific. He had somehow become injured and as a result, in rapid time, fallen victim to something called flystrike. The internal damage he had suffered was brutal, and he could not be saved.

I still blame myself. I feel that if I hadn't been away that night he would have been inside with me. I was his protector, and I had failed to protect him. He was two and a half when I took him in, and just five when he died.

I moved to a new place, and often think of Merlin, who almost certainly misses Miles as much as I do. I barely ever addressed him as Miles – usually buddy, sometimes pal. He's still with me, but now it's in photographs on the fridge. I'm so sorry, buddy. I miss you, pal.

Hannah Jane Parkinson

COVER: MAGALI DELPORTE/THE GUARDIAN
PHOTOGRAPH: GETTY IMAGES

My seven-year search for better bacon

When the World Health Organization warned about the nitrates in her favourite pork products, **Amy Fleming** had to find alternatives. She got there!



'Britain is a nation of bacon bap breakfasters'

I didn't realise quite how much I loved bacon, pancetta, chorizo and ham until the World Health Organization added processed meats to its list of carcinogens in 2015. Those salty, chewy pancetta chunks that send a mushroom risotto stratospheric - if I can resist scoffing the lot before the rice is cooked. The crumbly grain of Christmas ham carved off the bone. Translucent chorizo slices on holiday with a sip of red wine, or fried with potatoes, coating them with red umami oil. I am that disgusting person who dips her fingers in the pan after cooking bacon, to savour the salty melted fat.

Perhaps the health risks aren't as scary as they sound as long as you're not eating the stuff every day. But plenty are. Britain is a nation of bacon bap breakfasters, with ham sandwiches a lunchbox staple. We serve these foods in our hospitals and our schools, and once I had read the cancer news I couldn't unknow it. I went from thinking of charcuterie as traditional and natural - the stuff of bustling Saturday farmers' markets - to shunning it as toxic. Once I started checking the ingredients, I saw that even the farmers' market stuff contained nitrates and/or nitrites. When meat with these additives is cooked and eaten, carcinogenic N-nitroso compounds (NOCs) such as nitrosamine are formed.

Even unprocessed red meat (which includes pork) contains heme iron, which is involved in the formation of NOCs. This is why the World Cancer Research Fund recommends no more than three portions of red meat a week - but, when it comes to processed meat, "very little, if any".

The additives that make processed meats so much worse are the synthetic compound sodium nitrite (E250), along with sodium nitrate (E251) and potassium nitrate (E252). The latter two are both naturally occurring minerals - although they can be industrially synthesised - and have been used in meat curing for centuries, to give it colour and protect it from deadly bacteria. Other bacteria, during the curing process or in our mouths when we chew the meat, convert the nitrates into nitrites - which is why, collectively, these additives are often referred to simply as nitrates or nitrites.

Even before the WHO's announcement, I was on board with the idea of reducing meat consumption for the sake of the planet. But I was far from being a vegetarian. So I began to look for nitrate-free pork products. That quest led me to an online seller having a stab at an additive-free ham, but it arrived grey, overly salty and distinctly unham-like. I was bitterly disappointed. My partner tried River Cottage's traditional dry-cure bacon recipe - using salt and sugar - but the result was too sweet for my tastes, and a very different animal from conventional British wet-cure bacon.

In 2022, the stakes rose. March saw a group of cross-party MPs and eminent scientists writing to the government, urging a phasing out of nitrates. They argued that the additives were linked to the development of breast, prostate and bowel cancer. What's more, food technology had caught up, they said, and nitrates were no longer needed to make the meats look and taste how consumers expect - the era of grey nitrate-free ham was potentially over.

In July 2022, France announced it would be phasing out nitrates, and in December, research led by Chris Elliott, professor of biological sciences at Queen's University, Belfast, demonstrated that mice fed on Herta frankfurters (freeze-dried and made into feed pellets) developed 82% more tumours in the colon than those given a balanced rodent feed. Today, Elliott and his colleagues are campaigning for schools and hospitals to stop feeding nitrates to children and patients.

The WHO lists processed meat as a "known human carcinogen" along with smoking, alcohol and asbestos, but clearly these substances don't all carry the same risk. Smoking is the biggest cause of lung cancer, which leads to 35,000 UK deaths per year. Alcohol is linked to seven kinds of cancer, and comes with other health risks such as heart and liver disease, along with serious accidents. Nevertheless, Denis Corpet, professor of food safety and human nutrition in Toulouse, says he never buys so-called nitro-meats. He used to pack charcuterie when he hiked up mountains, but now, he says: "I don't buy it because we've learned so much." Not that an occasional slice of ham as part of a healthy varied diet is *that* risky, he says, if it's anything like the traditional plant-heavy diet of Mediterranean peasants who "couldn't afford meat very often". His own research has found that consuming calcium alongside your processed meat can block the carcinogenicity - although this hasn't been demonstrated in large cohorts yet, so mandatory cheese and ham combinations is nowhere near the official-medical-advice stage.

In the meantime, British supermarket offerings remain disappointingly nitrate-heavy.

> **Mice fed frankfurters developed 82% more tumours in the colon than those on a balanced rodent diet**

Most big stores do now offer an own-brand nitrate-free bacon. In my local I can also find one ring of nitrite-free chorizo, Unearthed's prosciutto and serrano hams, and Finnebrogue Naked's nitrate-free bacon and ham. Finnebrogue Naked's bacon is among the most expensive per kilo. And that's largely it, among shelves upon shelves of nitrates.

France is a little further ahead, says Corpet: "I would say a quarter are nitrate-free now," and they are only "a little more expensive".

It was Finnebrogue Naked that first demonstrated in the UK in 2018 that nitrate-free bacon butties were possible. Based in Northern Ireland, the company started out making sausages for M&S, but the WHO's 2015 report on processed





Hard to resist … pancetta

PHOTOGRAPHS: GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

More traditional producers use only salt and drying. Nitrates are used to speed up the process and make the meat more pink

meat gave them an idea. "We thought: we've got all this volume of pork; why don't we step in and try and do this the 'proper' way?" says Jago Pearson, chief strategy officer at Finnebrogue. In 2018, the company launched its Naked Bacon (now renamed Better Naked) brand and began producing M&S's own label nitrate-free bacon. Now it's supplying Sainsbury's, Tesco, Waitrose, Asda and Morrisons.

The secret ingredient Finnebrogue adds instead of nitrates is simply "fruit and spice extracts", according to Declan Ferguson, the firm's research, development and technical director. It was developed by the Spanish food technology company, Prosur and it is also used in Waitrose Made without Nitrite bacon, made by Pilgrim's UK.

According to Ferguson, the only reason there has to be any additive at all is to keep the meat pink. A protein in meat called myoglobin naturally turns red and then brown as it oxidises, and the nitrates stop this happening. If the bacon went grey-brown, he says, you couldn't legally sell it as bacon. The Prosur additive is high in antioxidants, which, says Ferguson, also "stops that myoglobin going brown". It doesn't slow the curing process or affect shelf life. "To the naked eye it looks like normal bacon," he says, "but it actually isn't the same pink as nitrate bacon and ham - it's more red."

Before bacon was made industrially, he says, "it would have been done either through salting or salt plus drying". Parma and Serrano ham are made similarly: "The more traditional producers only use salt and drying." Fermented products like salami, for which microbes are essential, can easily be made without nitrates, too, he says. "Nitrates have been introduced over time to help speed up that process and to create something that looks pink and fresh," says Ferguson.

After the carcinogen story broke in 2015, many in the meat industry claimed that nitrates protected charcuterie-lovers from contracting botulism, a rare but serious disease caused by toxins produced by Clostridium botulinum bacteria. When Finnebrogue started making nitrate-free bacon and ham, it had to spend a lot of time and money debunking this. "We've done 'challenge-testing', where we put the clostridium botulinum bugs in the bacon," Ferguson says. "We tested whether it grew and we were able to prove that it didn't."

The Food Standards Agency (FSA) says that nitrates and nitrites "have undergone a safety assessment prior to being authorised" and are "important preservatives which hinder the growth of harmful organisms, in particular the bacteria responsible for botulism". However, the agency doesn't insist on their use. "They are one of the ways manufacturers can choose to protect against growth of these harmful organisms," says Adam Hardgrave, head of additives at the FSA, "but other methods include using pH, water activity [essentially, how much water is available for the bugs to grow], salt, other food additives …"

"The other misconception," says Ferguson, "was that nitrates contribute to flavour, when they don't give you flavour compounds in themselves. We have won multiple awards for the flavour of our bacon."

In the US, there has been a clampdown on bacon marketed as "uncured", which has been spiked with celery or other vegetable extracts instead of the E numbers. It may sound healthy, but it's not. Like many vegetables, celery is a source of nitrate, and a concentrated extract can indeed stand in nicely for the usual additives. But the end product still contains harmful levels of nitrates, and can now no longer be labelled as "uncured", or "no nitrate or nitrite added".

Prosur's secret ingredient isn't the only nitrate-free colour enhancer on the market. Ferguson says he is aware of producers in Spain, France and Germany using similar additives, "or different ingredients to make something look red or pink through, say, cherry extracts or green tea".

David Lindars, technical operations director of the British Meat Processors Association, is surprisingly on board with a nitrate-free future, and says he's found decent nitrate-free salami at his local Tesco. He also says there are a lot of new nitrate-free trials going on behind the scenes.

"They do take quite some time," he says, "because you have to be absolutely certain there is going to be no risk to human health."



And the products have to match consumer expectation and shelf life. "It's really expensive, too. You're looking at circa £15,000 with one of the highly reputable labs." Still, that's small change compared with the cost of new production lines: Finnebrogue spent £20m to get its up and running.

In the meantime, Lindars says, in conventionally cured meats, "there has been a big push over the past 18 months or so to reduce the level of nitrates from 150 parts per million, which is the maximum. Two retailers that I know of have reduced their standard product to 60 parts per million: Co-op and Waitrose."

While I have cut my meat consumption, I can report that as an occasional treat, Finnebrogue Naked bacon is just as good as regular sliced bacon and, yes, I still dip my fingers in the hot fat. The Artysan Chorizo Riojano IGP ring is equally good, although I wish there was a more spicy version available. Like most packaged ham, I find Finnebrogue's slices too slimy and grainless. There's still a frustrating lack of choice. "There will be new nitrite-free stuff coming down the line later this



year," Pearson promises, though he won't say what.

"Where developments tend to lag the most," says Lindars, "is in food service," ie takeaways and restaurants. "Because your bacon roll - or whatever it may be - is cooked in the sandwich shop, the legislative requirements on displaying consumer information is very different." Customers, in turn, are often less rigorous in seeking nutritional information when eating out. "You tend to be in a different frame of mind," says Lindars. "It's kind of an impulse buy."

But the sense is that change is in the works, largely because, he says, "the consumer dictates, ultimately. You and me, we're going to buy what we want and what we believe to be good for us."

How to be a better human being



The Buddhist monk and bestselling author Matthieu Ricard has been called the 'world's happiest man'. What's his secret, asks **Emma Beddington**

I get anxious about interviews, I tell Matthieu Ricard moments after he appears on my computer screen in his red and saffron robes, his background, somewhere in the French region of Dordogne, discreetly blurred. He starts laughing uproariously before I can even get my confession out; he laughs frequently and infectiously throughout our call. "Really? In your job?" Yes, I reply. Does anything make him anxious? He considers the question. "Yes, missing planes or trains. Besides that, I don't have many worries."

This interview in particular feels intimidating. Ricard, 77, combines the rigour of a French intellectual (he has a PhD in cellular genetics, has written books on altruism, meditation and compassion for animals and translated numerous Buddhist texts into French and English) with the wisdom you get from 50-plus years of intense spiritual practice. I have the profundity of a Pop Tart and told a fruit fly to fuck off this morning; of course I'm anxious.

But I'm also excited. Like so many of us, I have spent most of my life wondering about happiness: is it really achievable? How? Is it selfish to even strive for it? Who better to help than "the world's happiest man"? This millstone of a title –"a nonsense idea" he calls it – attached to Ricard after he took part in a 2004 research project that analysed his brain as he meditated on compassion. The electroencephalogram (EEG) recorded unprecedented levels of gamma waves, associated with wellbeing and focus. His meditation also activated an area of the brain associated with positive emotions. "Just think for two seconds," he says with gentle exasperation. "How can we know the state of happiness of 8 billion human beings? Maybe there's a guy who's in complete bliss all the time?" Does the label annoy him? "No. I feel embarrassed. One of my friends said: 'On your grave it will read: 'Here lies the happiest man in the world.'" But his spiritual teacher's grandson, he says, told him: "Take it and use it. Stop fighting it."

And anyway, he *did* write a book called Happiness. "I wanted to call it Suffering," he says, which makes me laugh, imagining his publishers' faces, but for once he is deadly serious: "No! It's true!" Real happiness, he explains (he calls it "eudemonia", an ancient Greek term) comes from ridding yourself of sources of suffering: hatred, pride, jealousy and so on. This kind of wellbeing is "a sort of bonus" that comes from compassion, benevolence, altruism – and it's lasting and stable. You can feel it even in moments of grief and regardless of your material circumstances; he calls it "a way of being that pervades". That distinguishes it from pleasure, which is "perfectly fine, but not happiness".

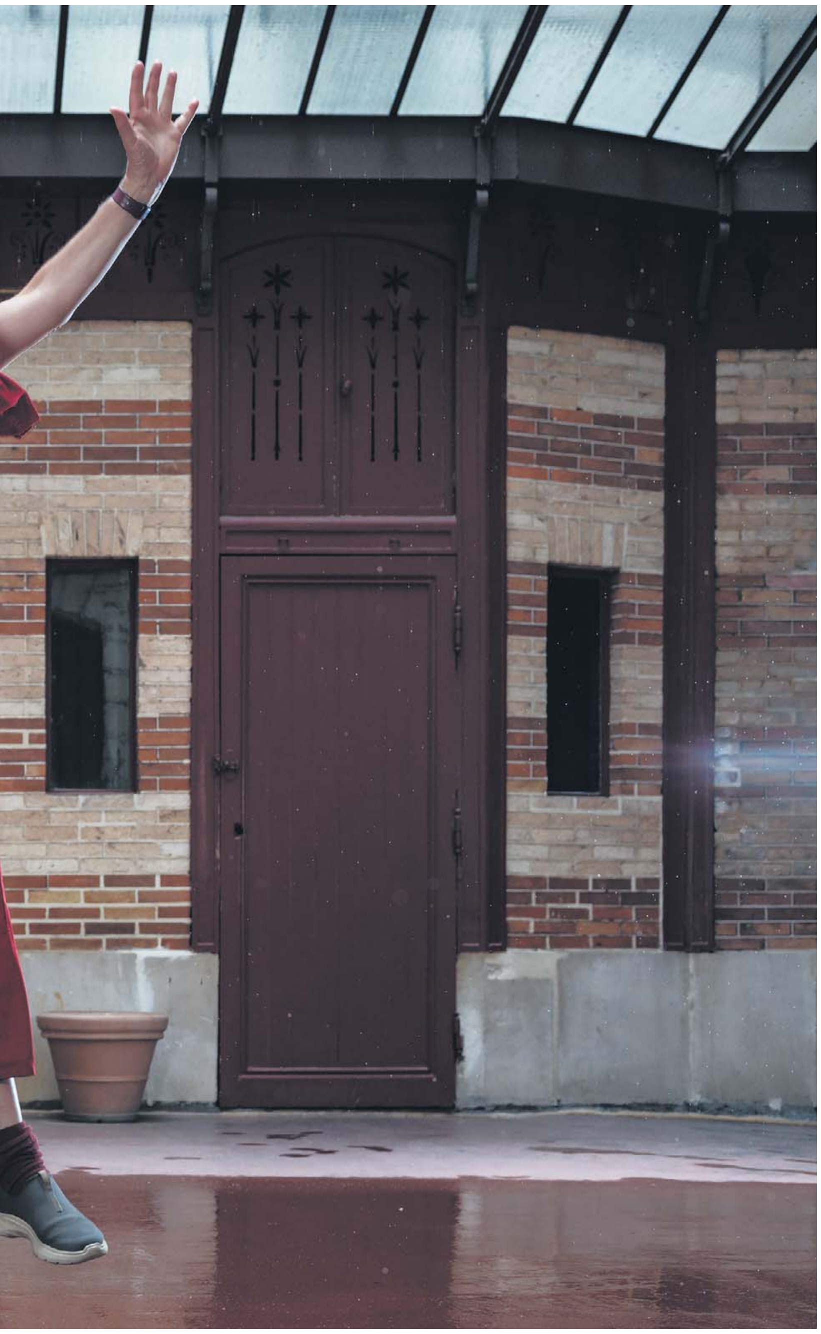
I struggle with this part, I tell him. I see pleasure – small joys – as an accessible form of happiness: enjoying nature, my family, cake. That's not bad, is it? There's a hint of the professor he almost became, dealing with a dozy student, as he replies. "Of course not! There's absolutely nothing wrong with taking a hot shower after walking in the snow. But if you stay 24 hours under a hot shower, you will not like it." He could listen to a beautiful piece of Bach three times, he says, but not for 24 hours. Pleasure fades, becomes neutral or unpleasant or inaccessible when circumstances change, he says, while happiness, "the more you experience it, the more it gets deeper, vaster, resistant to circumstances. But there's nothing wrong with pleasant sensations! It's simply a different thing."

> **The more you experience happiness, the more it gets deeper, vaster and resistant to circumstances**

I feel I'm bad at happiness; can that change? "Of course." Our mind can be "our best friend or our worst enemy", Ricard says: we need to cultivate qualities – "benevolence, inner strength, inner freedom so you are not too fragile for the ups and downs, discernment" – that mesh together to create eudemonia, and that's a skill that takes practice. "It would be strange if that wasn't the case. Why would this be the only thing in our human being that is fixed?" Some find it easier than others – he describes himself as "naturally inclined to serenity and rarely troubled by turbulent feelings" – but if you start from a low base, you are more likely to see a dramatic improvement.

But Happiness came out 20 years ago; it's old news. Ricard's latest book, Notebooks of a Wandering Monk, is all about his extraordinarily full life. He doesn't like me calling it a memoir – he visibly bristles when I suggest it

PHOTOGRAPHS: MAGALI DELPORTE/THE GUARDIAN; PHILIPPE LOPEZ/AFP/GETTY



and he says he slightly resents his former publisher's insistence on labelling it as such, preferring to call it "testimony". He knows "some guy on Amazon who always writes terrible things" will laugh at a person whose faith focuses on the death of ego writing 800 pages of autobiography. But it does relate a personal as well as a spiritual journey, from long periods in remote Darjeeling, Nepal, Bhutan and 21 trips to Tibet, including one in 1985 as one of the very first outsiders allowed in following the Chinese invasion. There are stints interpreting for the Dalai Lama and speaking at Davos and the UN and collaborations with world-leading scientists (he has co-authored papers on the neuroscience of meditation). "I have met so many extraordinary people and seen so many fabulous things," he says. That's why he wrote the book. Otherwise "they are going to die with my brain".

Even the minor details are gripping: observing Tibetan yak herders, horsemen and hermits; encounters with Chinese bureaucrats or the Bhutanese royal family; perilous climbs to Himalayan mountain-top holy sites; an eyewitness account of his teacher's "thukdam" (a period of death without decomposition). There's a great anecdote about him refusing to kill the tapeworm he's acquired, only for his spiritual teacher to force him to take the anti-parasitic, telling him: "Drink! Your human life is more precious than that of a worm."

Ricard grew up in France. His mother, Yahne le Toumelin, was a pioneering abstract painter (she also became a Buddhist nun in 1968), a protege of André Breton whose friends included Leonora Carrington and Luis Buñuel (Ricard mentions having lunch with Igor Stravinsky when he was 16). His father, the journalist and philosopher Jean-François Revel, edited the news weekly L'Express, published prolifically, and was a member of the Académie Française. But he describes his bewilderment, growing up, at how there appeared to be no correlation between genius and being a good person and the crystallising moment in the confusion and emptiness he felt when a friend showed him a documentary on Tibetan Buddhist spiritual leaders in exile (whom he describes as "20 Socrates or St Francis of Assisi"). "I thought OK, I'm going, let's see."

Ricard says he was "born on 12 June 1967", at the age of 21 – the day he met his first teacher, Kangyur Rinpoche. He gave up a high-flying postgraduate position at the prestigious Institut Pasteur (founded by Louis Pasteur and home to 10 Nobel laureates, including Ricard's supervisor François Jacob), said goodbye to the colonic bacteria that were the subject of his doctorate and moved to Darjeeling in 1972, before becoming a monk six years later. Was he apprehensive about telling his steely and intellectual father? "I hate big clashes," he says. "Fortunately, that never happened." His mind was made up and he was anxious to tell Revel "in a diplomatic, nice, loving way". His father said little (though, a friend later confided that he had cried). "He just said: 'How are you going to make a living?' It's a good question, because I never even thought about that."

I wonder if that was because of his bourgeois background but he corrects me: money was always tight, growing up. His father gave his mother very little (less still when they divorced); they were sometimes short on food and there were few toys for Christmas. He is surprised at how little material considerations crossed his mind, though: "It simply didn't come into the equation."

Does he wonder what life might have been like if he had stayed on his ordained Parisian path? Not really, he says. "As a friend says, you would be one of those proud scientists." He went back to Pasteur many years later and talked to a close friend and lab neighbour who had been studying the regulation of the gene for maltose. "I asked him: 'What are you doing research on?' He was still working on that, 25 years later. We looked at each other and he laughed. He could see I was thinking: 'Oh, poor you.'"

He does wonder, though, what might have happened if he hadn't collaborated with his father in 1997 on the book that completely changed the trajectory of his life, The Monk and the Philosopher. "I would be in a cave or a hermitage for this past 25 years. Maybe I would have become enlightened, who knows?" The philosophical dialogue was a near-instant bestseller, catapulting him into a "maelstrom" of media appearances, planes, trains, writing and book promotion. Overwhelmed, he talked to one of his teachers, who advised him: "Accept everything." He did. It might not have been the route he would have chosen, "But I can't say I feel it was useless."

People stop him in the street, saying: "You changed my life"; or sometimes: "You saved my life." "You feel: 'I didn't mean to!'" he says. "You give them a hug or something, then we have to part."

He has touched a "wide audience": one day, he relates, a builder and a Ferrari driver both stopped him to thank him for his book on altruism. On top of that, royalties enabled him to start his Karuna Shechen charitable foundation , funding education, healthcare and environmental projects in India, Nepal and Tibet. "We help 400,000 people every year."

I wondered, reading this new book, whether he had felt the impact of the climate crisis in the remote, beautiful landscapes where he spends so much time and that he clearly holds so dear, recalling his ecstatic descriptions of the gentians in Tibetan meadows, the birds, the snow-capped peaks and thin clear air. "Oh yes," he says, listing rivers flooding, mountains becoming black, moraines in Bhutan perilously close to breaking point. "There are 30,000 lakes in Nepal and Bhutan that have no names because they did not exist 30 years ago. For young people I understand it's a source of anxiety; how could it not be?" The antidote is action: "Act with compassion, then you won't feel so anxious. Do something, generate an attitude and get together." Compassion and action need to go together, he says, in combating the climate crisis and in everything.

In some ways, the world in 2023 has adopted concepts close to Ricard's heart: veganism and meditation are everywhere. I wonder how he feels about the contemporary cult of secular mindfulness – drained of spirituality, is it missing the point? "The Dalai Lama has said it's very simplistic. It's true that nowadays people present it like a panacea. If something becomes popular, it's unavoidable. Sometimes it's a bit annoying – they tell you how it should be." But he knows Jon Kabat-Zinn, high priest of mindfulness, well, and believes he has made a positive difference in the world, relieving suffering. "He never pretended this is full-fledged Buddhism. If a tool is useful, it is useful."

I'm 77 and in good health. I don't believe in living 1,000 years – imagine 1,000 years of Trump!



Ricard translating for the Dalai Lama in 2016

The new book marks the closing of a chapter for him. Ricard wants to get back to translation (there's an 800-page Tibetan text on his desk) and to his spiritual practice: "I've clowned around quite enough." The past four years have been anything but clowning though: he was "mummy-sitting", as he calls it, in the Dordogne, caring for his mother, Yahne, who died this May. "My mother left in her hundredth year and we surrounded her with love at home. It was wonderful; I feel very fortunate. Now I will resume my wandering life." He feels "a sense of being at ease" in Nepal, where his monastery is, and in the Himalayas generally more than in France. "I'm not very at ease with the French mentality – all this complaining all the time." He will finally get back there in November, although first there is a documentary to film in Iceland on mental health and loneliness, and some photography (another one of his talents and "my favourite way of getting distracted").

Fame and writing have taken him away from the life he chose when he was reborn in 1967, but he hopes and trusts there will still be time for everything. "I'm 77, in good health. I don't believe in living 1,000 years – imagine 1,000 years of Trump! I'm not sure that is what we need – but if I'm lucky, a few more years to focus on what matters most." What would he hope that people can take from his life and his writing? "Become a better human being to better serve others." That's what he would put on his grave, he says, not that being the world's happiest man stuff. "I don't think I will be buried – probably burned or given to the fish – but if I were, it would be that."

Notebooks of a Wandering Monk is out on 3 October

The lost Harvest cover ... Neil Young at his ranch in 1970



'Eric sat staring at her fingers' ... Mitchell, Crosby and Clapton at Mama Cass's picnic





'No one gave me the finger more than David

From the Doors to Joni Mitchell, Henry Diltz captured music's giants. But one band won his heart. The legendary Californian photographer looks back with **Greg Wetherall**

'Sometimes," says Henry Diltz, "the great picture is the one that happens before you set everything up." The legendary music photographer, speaking from his home in north Hollywood, has taken shots that became stamped into the annals of rock history. Not only was he the official photographer at 1969's Woodstock festival, he has also shot more than 200 album covers, including Morrison Hotel by the Doors, and has an archive that's more like a Who's Who of musicians. But it is his six-decade association with Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young (CSN&Y) that means the most to him.

"Nobody ever gave me the finger more than David Crosby," he says. "It was almost automatic. I'd raise the camera and he'd go like that." He mimics the action. "But then he would break out into a laugh and I'd get a great shot." He pauses, remembering his friend, who died in January. "I loved David."

Returning to his "great picture" theory, Diltz says: "There is a picture of Joni Mitchell looking out the window of the house in Laurel Canyon that she shared with Graham Nash. It was where he wrote Our House. I had received a call, saying, 'Joni needs some new publicity pictures. Will you go up to her house?' So I went over there late morning with Gary." That's Gary Burden, the graphic designer who did all of Neil Young's album covers, except for Harvest (and therein hangs a tale, which we'll get to).

"As we walked up, Joni was leaning out the window waiting. She said, 'Hey, good morning,' and started talking to Gary, which left me to walk around and take photos. Later, we took pictures while she played the dulcimer and sang. Those were nice, but the *great* picture was the first one when she was waiting for us in the window."

Born in Kansas City in 1938, Diltz's early years were nomadic. "My father was in the diplomatic corps," he says, "so we moved around. We lived in Tokyo, Bangkok and Munich." He later spent a year at military school in West Point, before studying psychology at the University of Hawaii. Then, one day in 1966, he saw cameras in a second-hand store, bought one, and a lifelong love affair began. "I just started taking photos of my friends in Laurel Canyon," he says. "Then, one by one, they became famous."

Now 85, Diltz exudes warmth and geniality, his white hair scraped back into a ponytail, a sharp curiosity flickering in his eyes, a camera ready in his pocket everywhere he goes. Even when not working, he takes about 100 pictures a day. We are meeting, via Zoom, to discuss his new photobook CSN&Y: Love the One You're With. Boasting 835 photos, many previously unpublished, and eyewitness accounts from the supergroup and luminaries such as Jackson Browne and Joni Mitchell, it is an unprecedented document of CSN&Y's journey from Laurel Canyon choir angels to stadium-conquering superstars. "Henry was our friend who happened to have a camera," Graham Nash later tells me. "He was one of us."

CSN&Y were a phenomenon. An intoxicating blend of soaring harmonies, pastoral folk and swirling rock, Crosby, Stills and Nash's eponymous era-defining 1969 debut album (pre-Young) was followed less than a year later by their first as a four-piece, Déjà Vu. Stratospheric success led to rampant egos, drug addiction and in-fighting. As the 70s wore on, relations hit the skids and the band fell apart.

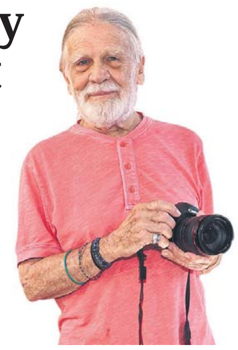
Diltz was there every step of the way. He had become friends with Stills in 1963, during the folk revival in New York, and their paths crossed again three years later in LA. "I walk by a house and I hear guitar music," he recalls. "I go to the door and Stephen is inside." Stills invited him to a club where his new folk-rock group were playing that evening. They were called Buffalo Springfield.

While the band soundchecked, Diltz hung around the parking lot. "On the back of the club was a huge mural: a colourful painting of a guy on a bicycle. I was focusing on that when the back door opened and Buffalo Springfield walked out. I said, 'Hey guys, would you just stand in front of that mural for a minute? I want to show how big it is.' They stood making faces and I kept clicking away."

A few days later, Diltz received a call from music magazine TeenSet, which had interviewed the band and required a photo. They offered $100. "I'd never made a nickel taking a picture," Diltz says, his disbelief still palpable. "That was a revelation."

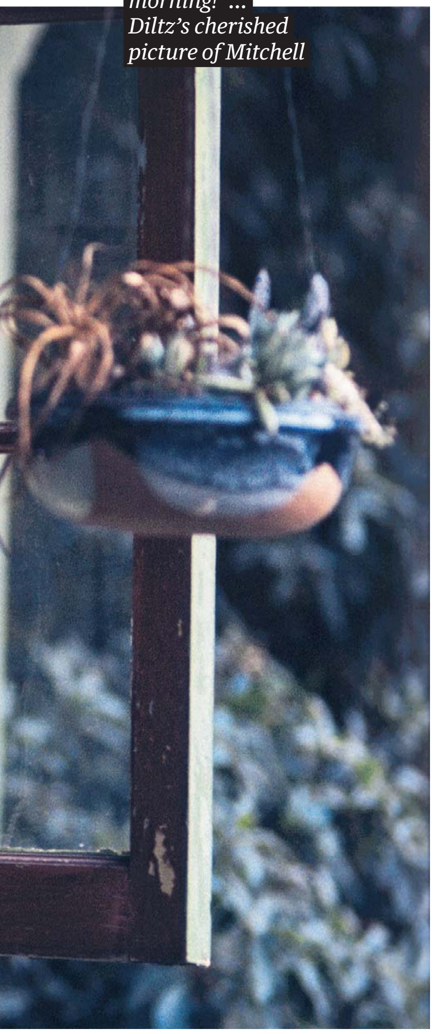
By early 1968, musicians were flocking to the sylvan splendour of Laurel Canyon in the Hollywood Hills. Among them was Mama

> I was never in their faces – so they forgot I was there



PHOTOGRAPHS: HENRY DILTZ

'Hey, good morning!' … Diltz's cherished picture of Mitchell



Crosby!'

Cass of the Mamas and the Papas, who threw soirees that everyone wanted to be invited to. Cass had just met British rock trio Cream on a TV show and asked their "shy" guitarist Eric Clapton to a picnic. Diltz was present, along with Crosby and his "protege" Mitchell.

"Joni's album hadn't been released," says Diltz, "but she sat under the tree and played the whole thing. I walked around taking pictures while Eric sat there staring at her fingers. He'd never heard of her and, because every song was in a different tuning, he'd never seen anything like it either. David loved to have her play for people because he wanted to blow their minds. Everybody would be in awe."

Mitchell, by then the girlfriend of Graham Nash, saw some sights of her own. "Joni was the only witness to the birth of Crosby, Stills and Nash," says Nash, referring to the night he joined in with Crosby and Stills singing You Don't Have to Cry. "Once I started singing, nothing else mattered. I knew I would have to leave the Hollies, come to America, and follow that sound."

Diltz adds: "In the beginning, they were all thrilled with the sound they could make. I would always hear, 'They were at a party the other night and sang Blackbird by the Beatles as a three-part harmony.'"

He shows me a backstage shot where Young is snapped mid-sentence alongside Nash and Crosby. "If I'd have been a 'proper' photographer," he says, "I might have walked up and said, 'Let's get a shot here.' But then you wouldn't have captured the magic of the moment. I was never in their faces, so they'd forget I was there."

By 1970, Neil Young had moved to a ranch in Half Moon Bay he named Broken Arrow. It was there he wrote his solo album Harvest, frequently included in "greatest album of all time" lists. "Gary was a good friend of Neil's," says Diltz. "We would drive up to Neil's ranch and spend the weekend. We'd get up early and walk around. And I would just take photos of everything I saw.

"Gary did all of Neil's album covers except one: Harvest. One time we were up there, Neil was sitting on a hay bale with a hat playing a little guitar. I think that photo would have been the cover of Harvest, except Gary and Neil had an argument or something, so he never designed that cover. It came out with just the word 'Harvest' on it instead. It's not official but that photo is the perfect Harvest photo. Neil was very funny. He's got a great feel for life, but he's very private."

By 1988, Crosby had kicked his heroin habit and the rest had addressed demons of their own. Diltz captured a joyous mood as they reunited at Young's ranch to record the American Dream album. "There was a feeling that we were all back," says Nash. "Crosby had gone through his drug issues and we'd all stopped snorting cocaine. We were singing together again, getting that sound."

Despite their more recent famous falling out, Nash tells me he "desperately" misses Crosby. "He was my best friend for over 50 years. By the end, we were emailing and voicemailing each other. I set up a FaceTime so I could see his face. I waited for the call, but it never came. He passed away a couple of days later." Nash goes on: "Crosby was a great rhythm guitar player. We know that his life was chaotic and he didn't take care of himself, but we are incredibly sad our partner has died." He pauses and adds: "All that arguing and shitty stuff that we did to each other, it's meaningless now."

As for Diltz, he continues to draw fans. His Instagram page is stuffed with arresting images from music's yesteryear. And this week, he will receive the Icon prize at the Abbey Road Studios Music Photography awards. "I was flabbergasted," he says. "I didn't photograph for awards or rewards, but it's so lovely to be recognised."

He adds: "In life, you leave your mark one way or the other. You may have kids, or do art, or do something else. I've never thought, 'I made that picture.' Bullshit. God made the picture. I just pushed the button. I'm happy I captured beautiful moments of people I admired who were also my friends."

CSN&Y: Love the One You're With is published by Genesis



'I love Britain's grey skies and castles' … the Texan and Kathi Zung; below, on stage with Midlake

Seduced by spires

He caused shockwaves when he left Midlake. Now Tim Smith is back – with a love letter to the British landscape fired up by William Blake and the Cure. By **Laura Barton**

'I wish I could say I took five years off and went to Greece or something … " Tim Smith lets the idea hang briefly. "But no," he says. "No. I just got to work." Smith, the founding vocalist of folk rock band Midlake, is explaining how 10 years ago the life he had known was dismantled – by himself and others – and how he slowly built it anew. It's a gentle story, as he tells it, though one suspects the past decade has smoothed the edges of events that must have been painful.

Smith, speaking via computer, has requested that we keep the cameras off, and his voice rises in a steady, amiable monologue. "I left the band. And then unfortunately, I got divorced from my wife about two months after that – my wife wanted to divorce, I didn't. But we were more like friends than lovers. So … I packed up and sold the house and then I moved away. I moved in with my parents actually, for quite a long time."



The city Smith left behind was Denton, Texas, where he had been to music college, and where in 1999 he had formed Midlake with four fellow jazz students, going on to release three critically acclaimed albums and tour widely with songs that recalled the sounds of earlier eras: the Yardbirds, the Alan Parsons Project, Grandaddy. Soon, they became one of the frontrunners of the 00s alt folk scene, keeping harmonious company with Fleet Foxes and Bon Iver.

When Smith quit in 2012, the band, on the brink of releasing a new album, were blindsided. But there was a kind of optimism, too. His bandmates chose a new singer and Smith, never quite satisfied with the Midlake sound, turned his attention to new projects. A solo album was hotly anticipated. A website was set up suggesting he was now recording under the name Harp. But the weeks turned into months, then years, his time taken up with "just, you know, life".

Life, in this instance, meant "finally falling in love again" and relocating to North Carolina to be with his new wife and her two children. There were day jobs, chores, keeping chickens. Along the way, Smith continued to work on music, writing, recording and acquiring the production skills he needed to render the sounds that ran through his head.

One day, Smith received an email via the Harp site. It was from a Midlake fan suggesting he might like to listen to the Cure's third record, Faith. It was not an unknown record to Smith, but listening afresh, it galvanised the musical direction he was already taking – one shaped by bands such as Cocteau Twins, Depeche Mode and Tears for Fears.

"I'm not sure what took me into the 80s," he says, "but it opened up the world of drum machines for me."

An album began to emerge: Harp's debut, Albion. The world conjured up is cold, small, drab and beautiful. It sounds like the record Smith was always destined to make. Its opening track is called The Pleasant Grey: it captures not only the sound he craved, but the country he first visited and fell in love with in the early days of touring with Midlake.

"I have quite a love for the British landscape and old villages, grey skies, castles, cathedrals, stone walls and green pastures. I really romanticise that." Other track titles point to a similar preoccupation: Shining Spires, Country Cathedral Drive, Herstmonceux (named after the medieval village in Sussex).

"I don't know where all that love came from," he says. "Maybe from my childhood and some of the movies I was into: The Dark Crystal, Dragonslayer, Beastmaster, Excalibur." Smith drew, too, on the poetry of William Blake, whose Visions of the Daughters of Albion lends itself to one Harp track.

One of the most crucial elements in the Harp sound and story is Smith's wife, Kathi Zung, who also works as a puppet fabricator, known for her work on stop-motion animations such as Guillermo del Toro's Pinocchio and Netflix's Wendell & Wylde.

"She's a musician as well," Smith says. "She can play several instruments." It was Zung who programmed the drums for Albion. "She's sitting next to me. She's working the controls. She's very invested. She can hear things. She will bring up old songs I'd forgotten about and say: 'I think you can tag this on right here.' The album wouldn't sound the way it sounds without her. So that's wonderful."

Albion will be released on 1 December by Bella Union. The first single, I Am the Seed, is out now

PHOTOGRAPHS: DAVID ZUNG; STEPHANIE PASCHAL/REX



Police search a field near the scene of the killings in 1996

Review The Russell Murders: Who Killed Lin and Megan?, Sky

Trying to make sense of two brutal murders on a country lane

★★★☆☆



Rebecca Nicholson

This three-parter promises a "definitive" and "granular" account of the horrific events that occurred on a quiet country lane in Kent in the summer of 1996, and the subsequent police investigation into it. In 2017, the BBC broadcast its own documentary, The Chillenden Murders, in which a team of experts re-examined the evidence that led to the conviction of Michael Stone, but given the true-crime boom of recent times, it's surprising that there have not been even more documentaries about such a shocking and unforgettable case.

Little wonder, then, that this documentary series has arrived now. Stone was convicted of murdering Lin Russell, 45, and her daughter Megan, who was six, and attempting to murder her other daughter, Josie, who was nine. He has served 25 years of a life sentence, but he is launching a fresh attempt to clear his name; earlier this year, the serial killer Levi Bellfield signed a statement "to take responsibility" for the killings, although Bellfield has previously confessed and retracted his statement. In July, the Criminal Case Review Commission said it saw no real possibility that Stone's conviction would be overturned.

The documentary features an interview with Stone in a later episode, which is its main selling point, but it begins with an examination of what happened on the afternoon of 9 July 1996 and the police operation that followed. After a swimming gala, Lin Russell had collected her daughters from primary school. They walked back towards their house with the family dog, down a remote country path. When they failed to return home, Lin's husband Shaun phoned the police and reported them missing.

Nearby, the now retired police officer Richard Leivers had been called to a murder scene, and came across what he thought to be "three dead people". For this film, he returns to the scene of the crime for the first time since 1996, in an attempt, it seems, to exorcise some of the trauma he has been left with. "I've suffered for it, mentally," he says, as he recalls the horrific sight that he encountered then. Talking about it today, he is palpably shaken. Leivers is the officer who noticed that Josie Russell was actually still alive, and carried her away from the scene. "It felt personal," he says here.

Others offer their testimonies. The neurosurgeon who operated on Josie speaks about the girl's recovery, and how the hospital became a haven for her dad. Jim Fraser, the former head of forensic investigations at Kent Police, offers his opinion on the "tsunami" of reporters that descended on Chillenden, and admits that, unusually for him, he attended the postmortems, as he wanted to do everything he could to help solve the case. It is evident that most of those involved in the case and its aftermath share a deep personal connection to it.

For their part, reporters and editors from the time recall how they delivered the news to the public. The former Sky News reporter Eve Richings talks about the difficulties of reporting on the case, such as when the villagers began to reject the cameras filming kids walking to school. Martin Brunt of Sky News explains that, as a crime reporter, "every story I do is bad news for somebody". The Sun's former crime editor, Mike Sullivan, says he knew the murders would be the next day's front page, rather apologetically offering the old newspaper adage that "if it bleeds, it leads".

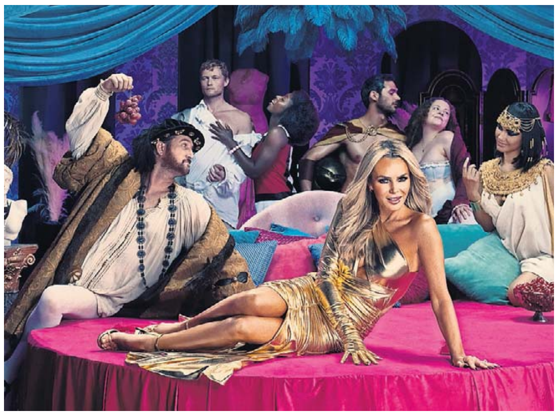
The story is, for the most part, delivered soberly, and without the tasteless affectations that accompany a lot of true-crime documentaries. There is little sensationalism in this opening episode. Brunt says that the village was "another victim" of what had happened. When the programme touches on the locals' discomfort at the attention they received, it does so mostly in the form of journalists talking about how people were uncomfortable with the presence of journalists.

But the brutality of the attack, the lack of a motive, and, for the first year, the lack of a suspect, left the murders looming large in the public psyche. The questions over Stone's conviction have kept them there over the subsequent decades. Without the involvement of the Russell family, though, the reliance on old news footage and clips released by the police at the time mean it's hard not to wonder whether this series ultimately serves a purpose, or simply dredges up a traumatic story, once again.

What's On

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Sex: A Bonkers History
9pm, Sky History



Is this bonkathon history series just an excuse for Amanda Holden to do some naughty cosplay? Probably – she slips into a Spartan mini-toga within five minutes during the first episode, which explores the "sex-m ad" ancient eras. But her game approach, along with historian Dan Jones's more educational bits (such as revealing the ancient Egyptians' natural remedy for erectile dysfunction), is marvellously entertaining.
Hollie Richardson

Jimmy Doherty's New Zealand Escape
8pm, Channel 4
The TV farmer is exploring New Zealand's foodie produce in this new series. He starts his journey at the country's most southerly point, Stewart Island, where he learns about sustainable fishing. Then he jumps on a beach motorcycle and heads over to a women-only sheep and deer farm. **HR**

Laura Kuenssberg: State of Chaos
9pm, BBC Two
Was Boris Johnson a good prime minister? That is the question put to the likes of Matt Hancock, Nadine Dorries, Jacob Rees-Mogg, William Hague and Sajid Javid this week. For a prime minister whose general election victory was based on a promise of stability, it is interesting to go over how events were handled during his tenure. **HR**

My Mum, Your Dad
9pm, ITV1
It's week two of the dating show which proves that singletons in their 40s and 50s are just as insecure and unpredictable as the younger visitors to Love Island. Their adult offspring cringe as they secretly watch their parents on screen, but with affection. Davina McCall offers lots of encouraging smiles.
Jack Seale

Bad Behaviour
9pm, BBC Three
The slow-burning Australian drama about the butterfly effects of bullying at a remote all-girl boarding school continues. In the present day, Jo re-examines some of her traumatic memories at an awkward reunion at a funeral; flashbacks to a fraught camping trip 10 years ago may help fill in the blanks.
Graeme Virtue

Juice
10pm, BBC Three
Accurately described by creator Mawaan Rizwan as a "trippy joyride", this new sitcom follows Jamma (Rizwan), who uses daydreams to navigate his chaotic life. He has just been promoted at work, but elsewhere has a bad reaction to his boyfriend's declaration of love and his mother's overbearing self-indulgence. **HR**

BBC One

6.0 Breakfast (T) **9.15** Morning Live (T) **10.0** Fraud Squad (T) **10.45** Claimed and Shamed (T) **11.15** Homes Under the Hammer (T) (R) **12.15** Bargain Hunt (T) **1.0** News (T) **1.30** Regional News and Weather (T) **1.45** Doctors (T) **2.15** Money for Nothing (T) **3.0** Escape to the Country (T) **3.45** Garden Rescue (T) **4.30** The Finish Line (T) **5.15** Pointless (T) (R) **6.0** News (T) **6.30** Regional News and Weather (T) **7.0** The One Show (T) **7.30** EastEnders (T)

8.0 When Bridges Collapse: The Genoa Disaster (T) (R) An investigation into the Ponte Morandi disaster in Italy in August 2018.
9.0 Who Do You Think You Are? (T) (R) Canadian comedian Katherine Ryan's investigation of her family history leads her to a Methodist minister.

10.0 News (T)
10.30 Regional News (T) Weather
10.40 The Repair Shop (T) (R) A football programme signed by Pelé, and a guitar that helped a teenager through lockdown are revived.
11.40 Alan Carr's Picture Slam (T) (R) Gameshow.
12.25 Weather for the Week Ahead (T) **12.30** News (T)

BBC Two

6.30 Bargain Hunt (T) (R) **7.15** Garden Rescue (T) (R) **8.0** Sign Zone: This Farming Life (T) (R) **9.0** Nicky Campbell (T) **10.0** News (T) **12.15** Politics Live (T) **1.0** Impossible (T) (R) **1.45** Eggheads (T) (R) **2.15** Murder, Mystery and My Family (T) (R) **3.0** Kelvin's Big Farming Adventure (T) (R) **3.30** Great Canadian Railway Journeys (T) (R) **4.0** Serengeti (T) (R) **5.0** Flog It! (T) (R) **6.0** House of Games (T) (R) **6.30** Tales from a Kitchen Garden (T) **7.0** Chris and Meg's Wild Summer (T) (R) **7.30** Mastermind (T)

8.0 Only Connect (T) Victoria Coren Mitchell presents.
8.30 University Challenge (T) University of Sheffield face Loughborough University.
9.0 Laura Kuenssberg: State of Chaos (T) The journalist examines Boris Johnson's premiership, focusing on the government's struggle to deal with Covid-19.

10.0 The Royle Family (T) (R)
10.30 Newsnight (T) Weather
11.15 FILM **Dark Waters** (Todd Haynes, 2019) (T) Fact-based drama about a lawyer's campaign against a chemical firm, starring Mark Ruffalo.
1.15 Sign Zone Countryfile (T) (R) **2.10** Henpocalypse! (T) (R) **2.40** Mrs Brown's Boys (T) (R) **3.10** This Is BBC Two (T)

ITV1

6.0 Good Morning Britain (T) **9.0** Lorraine (T) **10.0** This Morning (T) **12.30** Loose Women (T) **1.30** News and Weather (T) **1.55** Local News and Weather (T) **2.0** James Martin's Spanish Adventure (T) **3.0** Tenable (T) **4.0** Tipping Point (T) **5.0** The Chase (T) **6.0** Local News and Weather (T) **6.30** News and Weather (T) **7.30** Emmerdale (T)

8.0 Coronation Street (T) The police haul Bernie in for questioning about her scam, and Troy instructs Todd to do an unpleasant task.
9.0 My Mum, Your Dad (T) The parents take part in a group task that has the grownup children reaching for the cushions again as they watch their parents getting closer.

10.0 News (T) Weather
10.30 Local News (T) Weather
10.45 Long Lost Family (T) (R) Singer KT Tunstall tries to find her birth father.
11.40 My Mum, Your Dad (T) (R)
12.30 All Elite Wrestling (T) (R) **2.15** Tipping Point (T) (R) **3.05** Tenable (T) (R) **3.55** Unwind With ITV (T) **5.05** Spanish Adventure (T) (R)

Channel 4

6.05 Countdown (T) (R) **6.45** Cheers (T) (R) **7.35** Everybody Loves Raymond (T) (R) **8.25** Frasier (T) (R) **9.55** Chateau DIY (T) (R) **10.55** George Clarke's Amazing Spaces (T) (R) **11.55** News (T) **12.0** Steph's Packed Lunch (T) **2.10** Countdown (T) **3.0** A Place in the Sun (T) (R) **5.0** A New Life in the Sun (T) (R) **6.0** The Simpsons (T) (R) **6.30** Hollyoaks (T) (R) **7.0** News (T)

8.0 Jimmy Doherty's New Zealand Escape (T) New series. Jimmy travels to New Zealand to work alongside the local farmers.
9.0 Top Guns: Inside the RAF (T) Retiring warrant officer Dave Barr prepares the Battle of Britain dinner, but all plans are halted when the death of the Queen is announced.

10.0 Gogglebox (T) (R)
12.10 The Queens That Changed the World (T) **1.0** The Duchess and Her Magical Kingdom (T) (R) **1.50** Screw (T) (R) **2.40** Bone Detectives (T) (R) **3.30** Grand Designs (T) (R) **4.25** Location, Location, Location (T) (R) **5.20** Beat the Chef (T) (R) **5.45** House of Craft (T) (R)

Channel 5

6.0 Milkshake! 9.15 Jeremy Vine (T) **11.15** Storm Huntley (T) **12.40** Alexis Conran (T) **1.40** News (T) **1.45** Home and Away (T) (R) **2.15** FILM Seven Deadly Sins (Troy Scott, 2022) (T) **4.0** Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun (T) **5.0** News (T) **6.0** Susan Calman's Grand Day Out (T) (R) **7.0** Motorway Cops: Catching Britain's Speeders (T) (R)

8.0 Police Interceptors (T) Several officers join in the pursuit of two men in a van racing through four counties.
9.0 The Inheritance (T) The siblings' lives become more complex after the family home is burgled. A battle of wills leaves Chloe confused, and Daniel is desperate to pay back his loan.

10.0 Casualty 24/7: Every Second Counts (T) (R)
11.05 Ambulance: Code Red (T) (R)
12.05 Police Interceptors (T) (R) **1.0** Live NFL: Monday Night Football (T) **4.30** Entertainment News (T) **4.40** Nick's Quest (T) (R) **5.05** House Doctor (T) (R) **5.30** Entertainment News (T) **5.35** Paw Patrol (T) (R)

BBC Four

7.0 Great Coastal Railway Journeys (T) (R) Michael Portillo travels to Barry Island. **7.30** Climbing Great Buildings (T) (R) Scaling the Clifton suspension bridge.

8.0 Art on the BBC: The Great Salvador Dalí (T) (R) Art historian David Dibosa explores the BBC archives to create a television history of the surrealist artist.
9.0 Maggi Hambling: Making Love With the Paint (T) (R) The British painter and sculptor talks about her life and career.

10.0 Barbara Castle Remembered By Michael Cockerell (R)
10.10 The Red Queen: A Film Portrait of Barbara Castle (R)
11.05 Bridget Riley: Painting the Line (T) (R) Documentary.
12.0 Faith Ringgold: Tell It Like It Is (T) (R) **1.10** Great Coastal Railway Journeys (T) (R) **1.40** Climbing Great Buildings (T) (R) **2.10** The Red Queen (T)

Other channels

BBC Three
7.0pm Frozen Planet **8.0** Top Gear America **8.35** Ghosts US **8.55** The Catch Up **9.0** Bad Behaviour **9.55** Ryan Tricks on the Streets **10.0** Juice **10.30** Juice **10.55** The Bold Type **11.35** Stranger in My Family **12.35** Boot Dreams: Now Or Never **1.35** Juice **2.05** Juice **2.30** Dubai Hustle **3.0** Dubai Hustle **3.30** Dubai Hustle

Dave
6.0am Teleshopping **7.10** Yianni: Supercar Customiser **7.35** Yianni: Supercar Customiser **8.0** Top Gear **9.0** DIY SOS: The Big Build **10.0** Railroad Australia **11.0** Rick Stein's Road to Mexico **12.0** Celebrity Storage Hunters **1.0** Sin City Motors **2.0** Top Gear **3.0** Top Gear **4.0** Australian Ninja Warrior **5.30** Gino's Italian Escape **6.0** Rick Stein's Long Weekends **7.0** Richard Osman's House of Games **7.40** Richard Osman's House of Games **8.20** Would I Lie to You? **9.0** QI XL **10.0** QI XL **10.40** QI XL **11.20** QI XL **12.0** Mock the Week **12.40** Would I Lie to You? **1.15** Alan Davies: As Yet Untitled **2.25** Richard Osman's House of Games **2.55** Richard Osman's House of Games **3.25** This Country **4.0** Teleshopping

E4
6.0am Hollyoaks **6.30** Hollyoaks **7.0** Don't Tell the Bride **8.0** Melissa & Joey **9.0** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **9.30** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **10.0** The Big Bang Theory **10.30** The Big Bang Theory **11.0** Modern Family **11.30** Modern Family **12.0** The Big Bang Theory **12.30** The Big Bang Theory **1.0** The Big Bang Theory **1.30** The Big Bang Theory **2.0** The Goldbergs **2.30** The Goldbergs **3.0** Modern Family **3.30** Modern Family **4.0** Teen First Dates **5.0** The Big Bang Theory **5.30** The Big Bang Theory **6.0** The Big Bang Theory **6.30** The Big Bang Theory **7.0** Hollyoaks **7.30** Young Sheldon **8.0** First Dates Ireland **9.0** Married at First Sight UK **10.35** Big Boys **11.05** Big Boys **11.40** First Dates **12.45** Gogglebox **1.50** Married at First Sight UK **3.05** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **3.30** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **3.55** The Goldbergs **4.20** The Goldbergs **4.45** Black-ish **5.10** Black-ish **5.35** Modern Family

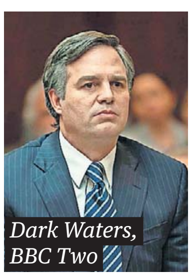
Film4
11.0am FILM Went the Day Well? (1942) **12.50** FILM The Yellow Balloon (1953) **2.30** FILM True Grit (1969) **5.05** FILM The Red Pony (1949) **6.55** FILM The Day the Earth Stood Still (2008) **9.0** FILM Conan the Barbarian (2011) **11.15** FILM Salt (2010) **1.15** FILM Chained for Life (2018)

ITV2
6.0am CITV **9.0** One Tree Hill **10.0** Dawson's Creek **11.0** Love Bites **12.0** Dinner Date **1.0** Family Fortunes **2.0** Chuck **3.05** One Tree Hill **4.0** Dawson's Creek **5.0** Dinner Date **6.0** Celebrity Catchphrase **7.0** Family Fortunes **8.0** Superstore **8.30** Superstore **9.0** Family Guy **9.30** American Dad! **10.0** American Dad! **10.30** Family Guy **11.0** Family Guy **11.30** American Dad! **12.0** Superstore **12.30** Superstore **1.0** Plebs **1.30** Plebs **1.55** Celebrity Karaoke Club **2.50** Unwind With ITV **3.0** Teleshopping **5.0** The Epic Tales of Captain Underpants **5.25** Scooby-Doo! Mystery Incorporated **5.45** Craig of the Creek

Sky Max
6.0am Supergirl **7.0** DC's Legends of Tomorrow **8.0** The Flash **9.0** Stargate Atlantis **11.0** Supergirl **12.0** The Flash **1.0** NCIS: Los Angeles **3.0** Hawaii Five-0 **4.0** S.W.A.T **5.0** DC's Legends of Tomorrow **6.0** Stargate Atlantis **8.0** There's Something About Movies **9.0** Fantasy Island **11.0** Never Mind the Buzzcocks **11.45** Brassic **12.45** Brassic **1.45** Cobra: Cyberwar **2.45** Road Wars **3.10** Hawaii Five-0 **4.05** S.W.A.T **5.0** Highway Patrol

Sky Arts
6.0am Glyndebourne: No Ordinary Summer **7.0** Andrea Bocelli: The Journey **8.0** The Joy of Painting **9.0** Tales of the Unexpected **10.0** Alfred Hitchcock Presents **11.0** Discovering: Basil Rathbone **12.0** The Joy of Painting **1.0** Tales of the Unexpected **2.0** DH Lawrence: Sex, Exile and Greatness **3.0** Wordsworth & Coleridge Road Trip With Frank Skinner and Denise Mina **4.0** Discovering: Jon Voight **5.0** Tales of the Unexpected **6.0** Alfred Hitchcock Presents **7.0** The Joy of Painting **8.0** André Rieu: Songs from My Heart **10.30** Classic FM Live: A Film Music Spectacular **12.30** The Barry White Story: Let the Music Play **1.40** Sam Cooke: A Legend in Concert **3.05** Eric Idle: Off Camera **4.20** National Trust: National Treasures **5.35** Inside Art: Barbara Hepworth

Sky Atlantic
6.0am Richard E Grant's Hotel Secrets **7.55** The Leftovers **10.05** Ray Donovan **12.15** Game of Thrones **1.20** Raised By Wolves **3.20** The Leftovers **5.50** Ray Donovan **7.55** Game of Thrones **9.0** Winning Time: The Rise of the Lakers Dynasty **10.15** The Lovers **10.50** Euphoria **11.55** True Detective **1.05** Angels in America **2.10** Das Boot **3.10** Game of Thrones **4.10** Richard E Grant's Hotel Secrets


Dark Waters, BBC Two

Radio

Radio 3
6.30am Breakfast **9.0** Essential Classics **12.0** Composer of the Week: Girolamo Frescobaldi (1/5) **1.0** Lunchtime Concert. Live from London's Wigmore Hall, baroque violinist Chouchane Siranossian plays music by Bach and his contemporaries. **2.0** Afternoon Concert. The Ulster Orchestra perform Schumann's Second Symphony, and Francesco Piemontesi is the soloist in Mozart's Piano Concerto No 20 with the Danish National Symphony Orchestra. **4.30** New Generation Artists. Konstantin Krimmel sings Brahms and Schubert. **5.0** In Tune **7.0** Classical Mixtape **7.30** In Concert. In the opening concert of this year's Lucerne festival, Paavo Järvi conducts the Lucerne Festival Orchestra, Luzerner Kantorei, Women of the Bavarian Radio Chorus and alto Wiebke Lehmkuhl in Mahler's Symphony No 3 in D minor. **10.0** Music Matters (R) **10.45** The Essay: Unearthing Britannia's Tribes. Ilka Tampke discusses writing about Boudicca. (R) **11.0** Night Tracks **12.30** Through the Night

Radio 4
6.0am Today **9.0** Start the Week. A discussion on the differences between humans, Neanderthals and AI. **9.45** (LW) Daily Service **9.45** (FM) Book of the Week: Material World. By Ed Conway. (1/5) **10.0** Woman's Hour **11.0** The Gift. A son's quest to learn about his late father takes a surprising turn. (2/7) **11.30** Analysis (R) **12.0** News **12.01** (LW) Shipping Forecast **12.04** You and Yours **12.57** Weather **1.0** The World at One **1.45** NatureBang. Becky Ripley and Emily Knight look at the evolution of laughter. (1/5) **2.0** The Archers **2.15** Slow Air. Drama, by Dan Rebellato. **3.0** Brain of Britain (6/17) **3.30** The Food Programme (R) **4.0** History's Secret Heroes. George Takei and the American internment camps. (R) **4.30** Beyond Belief. An ex-convict talks about how he found faith in prison. (6/8) **5.0** PM **5.54** (LW) Shipping Forecast **5.57** Weather **6.0** News **6.30** Paul Sinha's Perfect Pub Quiz (3/10) **7.0** The Archers **7.15** Front Row **8.0** 24 Hours in Snapchat. Documentary. **8.30** Crossing Continents. The desperate search by thousands of Syrian families for their missing relatives. (R) **9.0** The Archbishop Interviews: Nick Cave (R) **9.30** Start the Week **9.59** Weather **10.0** The World Tonight **10.45** Book at Bedtime: The Secret Hours. By Mick Herron. (1/10) **11.0** Sound Towns. A visit to Newport. (R) **11.30** Today in Parliament **12.0** News **12.30** Book of the Week: Material World (R) **12.48** Shipping Forecast **1.0** As World Service **5.20** Shipping Forecast **5.30** News **5.43** Prayer for the Day **5.45** Farming Today **5.58** Tweet of the Day: Cirl Bunting (R)

Radio 4 Extra
6.0am The Three Musketeers (5/6) **6.30** Death Speaks Another Language (2/6) **7.0** How to Find Home (1/10) **7.15** Hester (1/5) **7.30** Alexei Sayle's Imaginary Sandwich Bar (1/4) **8.0** Stop Messing About! (12/13) **8.30** Semi Circles (1/6) **9.0** It's Your Round (1/6) **9.30** Alison and Maud (5/6) **10.0** Indiana **11.0** The Three Musketeers (5/6) **11.30** Death Speaks Another Language (2/6) **12.0** How to Find Home (1/10) **12.15** Hester (1/5) **12.30** Alexei Sayle's Imaginary Sandwich Bar (1/4) **1.0** Stop Messing About! (12/13) **1.30** Semi Circles (1/6) **2.0** It's Your Round (1/6) **2.30** Alison and Maud (5/6) **3.0** Indiana **4.0** The Three Musketeers (5/6) **4.30** Death Speaks Another Language (2/6) **5.0** How to Find Home (1/10) **5.15** Hester (1/5) **5.30** Alexei Sayle's Imaginary Sandwich Bar (1/4) **6.0** Stop Messing About! (12/13) **6.30** Semi Circles (1/6) **7.0** It's Your Round (1/6) **7.30** Alison and Maud (5/6) **8.0** Radiolab (3/8) **8.55** Inheritance Tracks **9.0** Mastertapes (7/12) **9.30** The Long Drop (1/10) **9.45** The Dead Hour (1/10) **10.0** Comedy Club: Paul Sinha's Perfect Pub Quiz (2/10) **10.30** Small Scenes (2/4) **11.0** The News Quiz (2/8) **11.30** Lee and Herring's Fist of Fun (3/6) **12.0** Indiana **1.0** The Three Musketeers (5/6) **1.30** Death Speaks Another Language (2/6) **2.0** How to Find Home (1/10) **2.15** Hester (1/5) **2.30** Alexei Sayle's Imaginary Sandwich Bar (1/4) **3.0** Stop Messing About! (12/13) **3.30** Semi Circles (1/6) **4.0** It's Your Round (1/6) **4.30** Alison and Maud (5/6) **5.0** Indiana (2/2)

Puzzles

Friday's solutions

Wordsearch

D	R	F	Q	W	E	R	T	Y
S	R	E	T	T	E	L	Q	I
I	R	E	T	N	E	N	A	T
D	L	S	I	U	E	A	C	R
A	T	O	R	H	R	O	U	E
R	F	A	P	E	N	N	D	S
R	I	Y	M	T	B	E	I	N
O	H	H	R	M	L	M	A	I
W	S	O	L	E	O	T	U	O
S	L	M	T	P	C	C	A	N
D	A	E	S	C	A	P	E	B

Sudoku no 6,203

7	6	5	1	9	4	8	2	3
9	1	2	3	8	7	5	4	6
8	3	4	5	6	2	1	9	7
4	8	7	2	3	9	6	1	5
2	5	6	7	4	1	9	3	8
1	9	3	8	5	6	2	7	4
5	7	8	9	1	3	4	6	2
6	2	1	4	7	5	3	8	9
3	4	9	6	2	8	7	5	1

Suguru

2	1	4	3	2	1
4	3	2	1	4	3
2	1	4	5	2	1
3	5	2	1	4	3
2	1	3	5	2	1
3	4	2	1	3	4

Word wheel

VEGETABLE

Saturday's Quick crossword Solution no 16,650

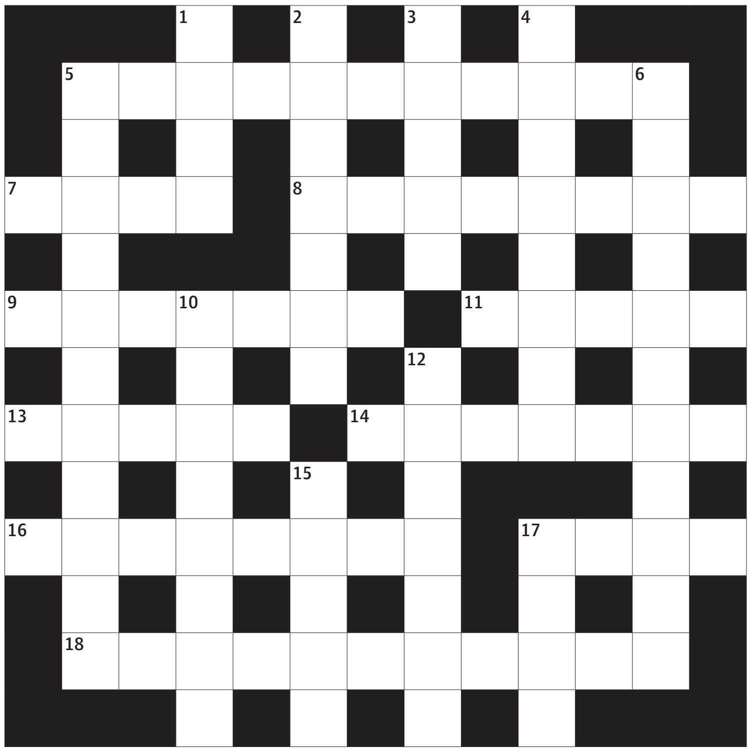
C	O	D	I	F	Y		U	S	E	D	U	P
E		I		A				C		I		O
L	A	V	E	R		Q	U	A	R	R	E	L
E		U		S		U		L		T		L
B	E	L	L	I	N	I		P	A	Y	E	E
S		G				Z		E				N
		E	M	B	E	Z	Z	L	E	R		
S				R		I				A		T
T	I	B	I	A		C	O	L	D	W	A	R
E		L		V		A		O		D		E
P	R	E	Q	U	E	L		O	P	E	R	A
U		E		R				S		A		T
P	O	P	L	A	R		M	E	D	L	E	Y

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Quick crossword no 16,651

Across
5 Brief and intensive training (5,6)
7 Gamete (4)
8 Turn over in one's mind (8)
9 Made more fit for purpose (7)
11 Shish or doner, say (5)
13 Vladimir Ilyich Ulyanov, d. 1924 (5)
14 Legal proceeding (7)
16 Climbing plant - as I'm Celt (anag) (8)
17 Wild party (4)
18 Follower of Haile Selassie (11)

Down
1 Something soothing (4)
2 Vetted (7)
3 Plump (5)
4 Feet (informal) - Del and Rodney? (8)
5 Troglodyte (4,7)
6 High-grade olive oil (5,6)
10 Most prissy (8)
12 Chocolate confection with a caramel and nougat filling (4,3)
15 Water vapour (5)
17 One-eyed Norse god of war and death (4)



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Sudoku no 6,207

Easy. Fill the grid so that each row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9. Printable version at theguardian.com/sudoku

							8	
		9	1			7	3	
	7		5		8		2	1
	8	2				3	7	
					5			2
		5		2		1		
	1		6		9			7
9	2	8	7					
		4		5		8		

Suguru

Fill the grid so that each square in an outlined block contains a digit. A block of two squares contains the digits 1 and 2, a block of three squares contains the digits 1, 2 and 3, and so on. No same digit appears in neighbouring squares, not even diagonally.

			4		2
	3				3
	2		2		4
	4				
	3				
					3

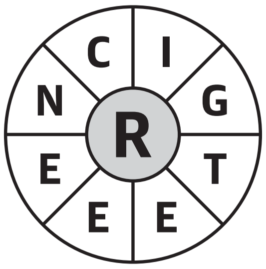
Wordsearch

Can you find 15 types of box in the grid? Words can run forwards, backwards, vertically or diagonally, but always in a straight, unbroken line.

L	G	M	F	P	O	S	T	G
V	O	Z	Q	E	O	H	S	L
A	I	O	A	R	P	I	A	O
R	E	T	T	A	H	C	H	V
S	C	R	O	O	O	C	I	E
S	N	S	R	Y	N	A	T	U
E	R	S	Q	U	E	E	Z	E
N	E	O	L	W	R	N	F	I
T	A	L	Y	G	I	U	O	N
I	M	T	P	A	S	N	C	M
W	R	A	I	E	L	N	E	E

Word wheel

Find as many words as possible using the letters in the wheel. Each must use the central letter and at least two others. Letters may be used only once. You may not use plurals, foreign words or proper nouns. There is at least one nine-letter word to be found. TARGET: Excellent-37. Good-31. Average-23.



Trivia corner

Düsseldorf in Germany has just hosted the Invictus Games. Which city will host it next?
a. Vancouver, Canada
b. Wellington, New Zealand
c. New Delhi, India
d. London, UK
Answer top right



TODAY'S TRIVIA CORNER ANSWER **VANCOUVER, CANADA**